



MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 2026 MEETING ADMINISTRATIVE RULES REVIEW COMMITTEE

MEMBERS PRESENT

Senator Kara Warme, Chair
Senator Mike Bousselot
Senator Dan Dawson
Senator Janet Petersen
Senator Cindy Winckler

Representative Chad Ingels, Vice Chair
Representative Austin Harris
Representative Rick L. Olson

EX OFFICIO, NONVOTING MEMBER: Stan Thompson, Administrative Rules Coordinator, Office of the Governor

LSA CONTACTS: Organizational staffing provided and minutes prepared by Jack Ewing, Administrative Code Editor, 515.281.6048, and Natalie Sherman, Legal Counsel, 515.725.2299

BULLETINS NEEDED FOR THIS MEETING: 8/5/26, 8/19/26, 9/2/26

Procedural Business

Senator Warme convened the regular, statutory meeting of the Administrative Rules Review Committee (ARRC) at 10 a.m. on Monday, September 14, 2026, in Room 116, State Capitol, Des Moines, Iowa. The minutes of the August 10, 2026, meeting were approved. The next meeting was scheduled for Monday, October 12, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Fiscal Overview

Mr. Chris Ubben, Division Editor/Supervisor, presented the LSA fiscal report.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Representing the agency: Victoria Daniels

ARC 0467D (AF), State-Funded Family Medicine Obstetrics Fellowship Program; Medical Residency Training State Matching Grants Program; Center for Rural Health and Primary Care; Iowa Needs Nurses Now Infrastructure Account, Chs. 106, 108, 110, 111

Committee members asked whether rules had been promulgated for the new health care incentive program. Ms. Daniels responded that 2026 Iowa Acts, House File 972, which enacted the program, did not give the department rulemaking authority, but that the program was still undergoing an operational transition.

No action taken on ARC 0467D.

Rulemaking type is indicated in parentheses following the ARC number. The acronyms have the following meanings: Regulatory Analysis (RA), Notice of Intended Action (NOIA), Amended Notice of Intended Action (ANOIA), Notice of Termination (NOT), Adopted and Filed Emergency (AFE), Filed Emergency After Notice (FEAN), and Adopted and Filed (AF).

SOIL CONSERVATION AND WATER QUALITY DIVISION

Representing the agency: Colin Tadlock, Susan Kozak

ARC 0544D (NOIA), Subsidence, Rule 60.19, also Filed Emergency ARC 0545D

Committee members asked how many cases of subsidence occur annually. Ms. Kozak responded that there had not been a requirement to report such occurrences to the department in the past, but based on feedback from the industry, only a handful of subsidences occurred each year. Members asked about the protections for private landowners. She responded that the mining companies are responsible for any effects caused by mining.

No action taken on ARC 0544D or ARC 0545D.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Representing the agency: Brooke Axiotis

RA 26-259 (RA), Iowa Industrial New Jobs Training Program, Ch. 62

Committee members asked about the public comments received by the department and the department's response to such comments. Ms. Axiotis summarized comments received from ACT, Community Colleges for Iowa, and the North Iowa Corridor Economic Development Corporation. She noted that the department had not yet responded to the public comments. Members asked about the upcoming interim study committee and how the feedback from the study committee will be incorporated into the rulemaking. She responded that the study committee findings would be incorporated into either amended rules or into guidance.

Ryan Roberts, Director of Government Relations for Community Colleges for Iowa, spoke regarding provisions of the rulemaking that reintroduce rules or restrictions that the legislature considered but did not ultimately include in 2026 Iowa Acts, House File 2799. He stated that adding the provisions back through rulemaking would decrease the effectiveness of the program. He made recommendations for training and program costs, and which recommendations were also included in the public comments of Community Colleges for Iowa. Committee members asked how long the approval process for the program would take under the rulemaking versus the current process. He responded that other programs under the department had been delayed by months, and the rulemaking would delay and hurt the effectiveness of the program. Members asked about the current process. He responded that employers and community colleges initiated the training plans, which are then taken to the college's board and at that point a determination is made whether to include the cost of the training program in a bond issuance. Members asked about the change to the definition of training. Ms. Axiotis responded that the subject matter expert would follow up at a later date. She also stated that the NOIA for this rulemaking would be published in the September 30, 2026, Iowa Administrative Bulletin.

COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK, IOWA

Representing the agency: Tyler Smith

ARC 0507D (NOIA), Authorized Use and Users, Ch. 7

Committee members asked why the rulemaking no longer included certain authorized uses and users. Mr. Smith responded that it is to remove obsolete phrasing and modernize the rules.

No action taken on ARC 0507D.

ARC 0509D (NOIA), Access to Facilities, Ch. 14

Committee members asked if the changes made by the rulemaking were modernization efforts. Mr. Smith responded in the affirmative.

No action taken on ARC 0509D.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COMMISSION

Representing the agency: Christine Paulson, Marnie Stein, Theresa Stiner, Noah Poppelreiter, Charlotte Richards, Keith Wilken

ARC 0477D (NOIA), Air Emissions, Chs. 21–24, 27, 33

Committee members asked how the department engaged stakeholders, and whether the department anticipated a lot of feedback during the public comment period. Ms. Paulson responded that the department did not expect a lot of feedback, and regarding asbestos notifications, the department had been informing stakeholders to use the new system, and the department had a contract with the University of Northern Iowa to assist small businesses with using the new system. Ms. Stein noted that the department received a comment from a landfill during the regulatory analysis phase in favor of the rulemaking.

Committee members asked about public access for information regarding air quality. Ms. Stein responded that air quality information could be found through the air quality monitoring system, which data can be found live on the department's website, through the environmental services division dashboard, and through public records requests.

No action taken on ARC 0477D.

ARC 0483D (AF), Solid Waste Management, Chs. 102, 108, 116–118, 120–122

Committee members asked what actions can be taken if water quality is impacted by dead livestock, and what clarifications are made by the rulemaking. Ms. Stiner responded that actions would include a notice of a violation or an administrative order, and that the department retains authority over water quality issues, but any other issues related to dead animals is under the authority of the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS). She noted that the rulemaking clarified exemptions and made no substantive changes. Members asked whether runoff from a compost pile would have to include dead animals for the department to become involved. She responded that other complaints not related to runoff would be directed to IDALS. Members asked what authority IDALS had to force corrective action. She responded that the question should be referred to IDALS. Mr. Poppelreiter noted that in terms of air quality, anything the department has the authority to regulate, the department would regulate.

No action taken on ARC 0483D.

ARC 0490D (AF), Underground Storage Tank Certification Programs, Ch. 134

Committee members asked about the primary concerns raised by public comments, and what specific changes were made to the rulemaking. Mr. Wilken responded that the comments concerned clarification of language in the rulemaking, and the changes provided additional clarifying language. Members asked how many certified inspectors are in the state. Ms. Richards responded that there are between 70 and 80 certified inspectors. Members asked whether the periodic testing for which certification is no longer required may be dangerous. Mr. Poppelreiter responded in the negative. Members asked for more information about the activities that will no longer require certification. He explained the activities, which he stated do not require specialized training and are not dangerous. Members asked how frequently an inspector is at an underground storage tank site. Mr. Wilken responded that inspection is required every two years.

No action taken on ARC 0490D.

INSPECTIONS, APPEALS, AND LICENSING DEPARTMENT

Representing the agency: Amy Oetken, Brian Young

ARC 0549D (NOIA), Electrical Installations—Update of Adoption by Reference, Rule 404.3

Committee members asked how the department balanced safety, practicality, and costs when creating the rulemaking. Mr. Young responded that there is always cost associated, and that the board tries to account for all variations in project sizes. Members asked why the rulemaking did not amend the National Electrical Code. Mr. Young responded that adoption of the National Electrical Code varied by state, and the Iowa board focused on safety, and that input from stakeholders was to adopt the code without amendments.

Committee members asked about the cost analysis, and why warning labels were considered a moderate cost rather than a low cost. Mr. Young responded that the cost may vary based on building design and installation, and the labels are used for commercial properties which vary in size. Members asked how a more precise cost estimate can be determined. Mr. Young responded that the department needed specific guidelines to determine exact costs, such as the size of buildings or the area the buildings will be located in.

Mr. Nick Laning, representing the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Iowa State Conference, explained that IBEW's members are instructors and work on committees to put together the National Electrical Code. He stated that the safety of workers, homeowners, and schools was more important than costs, and project costs are an up-front issue that may save money later on.

Committee members asked about the exemptions removed from the prior 2023 rules. Representative Jeff Cooling, an electrician, explained the repeal of the exemptions by legislation in 2026.

Mr. Robert Haines, on behalf of the Eaton Corporation, shared a written statement in support of the proposed rulemaking.

No action taken on ARC 0549D.

ATTORNEY GENERAL

Representing the agency: Dan Breitbarth

ARC 0555D (AF), National Opioid Settlement Distribution, Ch. 39

Committee members asked about the number of award grantees and how much of the total dollars for the fiscal year had been spent. Mr. Breitbarth responded that five grantees had been announced and would receive awards soon, spending about \$1.6 million total. He explained that applications for awards are reviewed on a weekly basis and the next award is anticipated to be awarded by the end of October. He also noted that the office currently had \$12 million to distribute, and anticipated receiving \$20 million Metotal between now and 2030. Members asked why the office preferred a looser application process rather than more stringent requirements. He responded that the application process allowed for flexibility, because some projects required immediate funding, and the office could act quickly or take extra time to do necessary research without a deadline to distribute awards.

No action taken on ARC 0555D.