
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

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IOWA LOTTERY BOARD MEETING — JUNE 2019

Meeting. The Iowa Lottery Board met on June 25, 2019, at the Iowa Lottery headquarters in Clive.

Actions. The Board received financial, marketing, security, IT systems, external relations, and legal quarterly reports. According to the most recent financial update, Lottery proceeds are projected to fall just shy of the Lottery's record year in 2016, at just \$1.0 million below proceeds for that year. March and April 2019 were slow months for the Iowa Lottery; however, lottery sales in May rebounded, with \$5 lottery tickets showing the most positive growth.

Lottery Modernization Update. In January 2019, the federal Department of Justice released a new interpretation of the Federal [Wire Act of 1961](#), submitting that the Wire Act extends to online betting or wagering and prohibits the practice. This reinterpretation delayed Iowa Lottery modernization efforts; however, a [recent ruling](#) in New Hampshire suggests that the Wire Act does not apply to online betting or wagering. The United States District Court for the District of New Hampshire held that the Wire Act applies only to transmissions related to bets or wagers on a sporting event or contest (sports wagering).

Public Safety Survivor Benefits Fund. During the 2019 Legislative Session, the Public Safety Survivor Benefits Fund was established to assist surviving family members of Iowa peace officers and fire fighters killed in the line of duty in paying costs associated with accident or health care insurance coverage. The Iowa Lottery Authority will transfer \$100,000 of its proceeds to the Fund in October of each year. Annual Lottery proceeds deposited into the General Fund will be reduced by this amount. The Department of Public Safety will administer the Fund, awarding half of the proceeds to organizations created to assist surviving family members of eligible peace officers, and the other half to organizations providing assistance to surviving family members of eligible fire fighters.

Next Meeting. The next Iowa Lottery Board meeting is scheduled for July 2019.

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