
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

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Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

IOWA PUBLIC BROADCASTING BOARD MEETING — OCTOBER 2020

Meeting. The Iowa Public Broadcasting Board met on October 14, 2020, by teleconference. The meeting opened with the Board discussing the Iowa PBS Diversity Plan and outcomes as a result of the plan. Board members also discussed the potential turnover of current staff due to retirements, the desire to broaden the base for applicants, and the need to broaden diversity on the Board and within the staff. The Board ultimately approved the Plan and recognized the need for the Plan to be fluid and responsive.

Financial Reports. The Board approved final and quarterly financial reports as presented. Nonbudgeted and ongoing expenditures related to providing services for Governor Reynolds press conferences being held at the Iowa PBS studios were detailed. An application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has been submitted for \$55,000 with potential reimbursement of 75.0% to be received. An application has also been filed with FEMA for damage at the Alleman tower due to the August 10, 2020, derecho.

Ready for School Update. For the eighth year, Iowa PBS is providing [designated communities and school districts](#) with ready for school supports including high-quality educational media resources that help children increase their school readiness. The initiative has been deployed in more than 125 communities prior to this year.

Programming. The programming for [FestiFall](#) 2020 fundraiser was provided. The Board also received State Fair broadcasting results based on the digital programming that was provided despite the cancellation of the Iowa State Fair in 2020 due to COVID-19.

Executive Director Report. Molly Phillips, Iowa PBS Executive Director and General Manager, introduced the idea of video [datacasting](#). Several Public Broadcasting Service television stations around the country are leading a pilot project to determine the benefits and limitations of datacasting technology for public safety use. The Board also discussed the role of Iowa PBS in dealing with the connectivity issue across the State.

Next Meeting. The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for Wednesday, December 8, 2020.

LSA Staff Contact: Lora Vargason (515.725.2249) lora.vargason@legis.iowa.gov

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