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## FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

February 13, 2025



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Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

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### EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING — FEBRUARY 3, 2025

**Meeting.** The Executive Council met on Monday, February 3, 2025. The Council approved the following agenda items:

- The Council approved the minutes from the meeting held on January 6, 2025.
- The Council approved a request from the Department of Justice, Attorney General's Office, for payment of expenses of approximately \$18,000 pursuant to Iowa Code section [7D.10](#).
- The Council approved two requests from the Department of Justice, Attorney General's Office, for the retention of outside counsel at a rate of \$160 per hour pursuant to Iowa Code section [13.3\(1\)](#) for workers' compensation cases filed by State employees.
- The Council approved a request from the Department of Justice, Attorney General's Office, for an hourly compensation rate increase for Patterson Law Firm for cases assigned on or after January 1, 2025, at a rate between \$160 and \$175 per hour. Personnel raises are at a rate between \$100 and \$155 per hour.
- The Council approved a request from the Department of Justice, Attorney General's Office, for the retention of special counsel at a rate of \$452 per hour pursuant to Iowa Code section [13.7](#) to represent Iowa PBS on Federal Communications Commission (FCC) matters.
- The Council approved a request from the Department of Justice, Attorney General's Office, for the retention of special counsel governed by a separate contingent fee agreement pursuant to Iowa Code section [23B.3](#) to provide legal services to Iowa for investigations and possible litigation of certain business practices of Institutional Shareholder Services, Inc., and Glass, Lewis & Co.
- The Council approved a lease between the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Olson — Landowner. The lease is for a deck with stairs in Dickinson County. The lease will run from December 1, 2024, to November 30, 2029, and the annual fee of the lease is approximately \$155.
- The Council approved emergency allocations totaling approximately \$482,000 for the following:
  - \$20,000 to the DNR for repair costs due to flood damage in multiple counties.
  - \$300 to the DNR for repair costs due to damage caused by theft at McIntosh Woods State Park.
  - \$254,000 to the Board of Regents — Iowa State University for repair costs due to damage caused by an activated fire suppression system at the Durham Center Building.
  - \$23,000 to the Board of Regents — Iowa State University for repair costs due to water damage caused by frozen pipes at the Hach Hall and the Molecular Biology Building.
  - \$45,000 to the Iowa Communications Network (ICN) for cable repair costs due to damage caused by excessive erosion.
  - \$13,000 to the Department of Public Safety (DPS) for repair costs due to damage caused by a storm to the Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications System (ISICS) communication tower.
  - \$12,000 to the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) for repair costs due to damage caused by a storm to multiple buildings on the Capital Complex and Ankeny Labs.
  - \$114,000 to the DAS for vehicle repairs.
- The Council approved payment of cost items totaling approximately \$284,000 for the following:
  - \$33,000 to the DAS for vehicle repairs.
  - \$100,000 to the DNR for repair costs due to damage caused by a fire to a skid loader.
  - \$24,000 to the Department of Corrections for repair costs due to damage caused by lightning to the Anamosa State Penitentiary.

- \$79,000 to the DPS for repair costs due to damage to multiple ISICS communication towers.
- \$26,000 to the ICN for repair costs due to damage caused by excessive erosion in multiple counties.
- \$6,000 from the Attorney General's Office's Forfeiture Fund for legal fees.
- \$6,000 from the General Fund for legal fees.
- \$2,000 from the Department of Revenue (IDR) Fund for legal fees.
- \$3,000 from the Unclaimed Property Fund for legal fees.
- \$5,000 from the Second Injury Fund for legal fees.
- The Council took note of the following information items:
  - The Council received the IDR's second quarter status update of the Litigation Expense Fund.
  - The Council received notice that per the Civil Reparations Trust Fund Agreement, approximately \$330,000 will be transferred to Iowa Legal Aid. This is the second of three payments.
  - The Council received two notifications from the Auditor of State's (AOS's) Office that funds previously allocated for the DAS for vehicle damages are not required. Approximately \$6,000 will be reverted back, and the allocation will be closed.
  - The Council received notification from the AOS's Office that funds previously allocated for the DPS for damages to an ISICS communication tower are not required. Approximately \$5,000 will be reverted back, and the allocation will be closed.
  - The Council received a quarterly update on State Aid allocations pursuant to Iowa Code section [29C.20](#).

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