
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

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Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

IOWA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING — APRIL 2025

Board Meeting. The [Iowa Economic Development Authority \(IEDA\) Board](#) met on April 18, 2025, at 1963 Bell Avenue in Des Moines.

Compliance Report. The Board approved the following contract amendment requests:

- A 30-day extension of the signing deadline for Daisy Brand.
- A reduction of 30.0% (\$146,000) of the incentives awarded to Heartland Financial USA. The company was out of compliance with job creation and maintenance during approximately 30.0% of the maintenance period.

Financial Assistance. The Board approved the following financial assistance applications:

- A \$500,000 forgivable loan and a \$300,000 sales and use tax refund for A.D.R. Axles USA, located in Perry. The company manufactures axles, including for use in farm equipment. The incentives will be used to construct a fabrication and assembly facility that will also conduct research and development activities. The project represents an investment of \$14.3 million and is expected to create 35 jobs, of which 12 are incented at a qualifying wage of \$31.10 per hour.
- A \$281,000 Investment Tax Credit and a \$508,000 sales and use tax refund for Frontier Natural Products Co-op, located in Belle Plaine. The company is a wholesaler of natural and organic products, including herbs, spices, and essential oils. The incentives will be used to construct a new facility to increase production and warehouse capacity. The project represents an investment of \$30.2 million and is expected to create 16 jobs, of which 6 are incented at a qualifying wage of \$22.18 per hour.

Sports Tourism Marketing. The [Sports Tourism Marketing Program](#) provides financial assistance for projects that market or promote sporting events in Iowa. The Board approved a grant of approximately \$7,000 to the Des Moines Metro Disc Golf Club for the Disc Golf Pro Tour's Discmania Challenge. The event is a professional disc golf tournament that will take place over three days. The grant will be used to create a 20- to 30-minute documentary, a segment on the *Hello Iowa* television show, and digital and physical advertising.

Community Attraction and Tourism (CAT) Program. The [CAT Program](#) provides grants to communities that support the development and creation of multipurpose attraction and tourism facilities. The Board approved the following CAT grants and amendments:

- A \$343,000 grant to the city of Grinnell for a veteran's monument. The project represents an investment of \$1.7 million.
- A \$500,000 grant to Dickinson County to extend a recreational trail. The project represents an investment of \$2.5 million.
- Extend the project completion date from April 30, 2025, to October 1, 2025, for the city of Story City library expansion.
- Extend the project completion date from April 30, 2025, to April 30, 2026, for the city of Cedar Rapids environmental revitalization and trail development project.
- Extend the deadline to submit the first request for disbursement to May 24, 2025, for the city of North Liberty's Centennial Center project.

Sports Tourism Infrastructure. The Sports Tourism Infrastructure Program supports collegiate and professional sporting events in the State. The Board approved a contract amendment to extend the completion date and financing deadline from April 30, 2025, to August 31, 2025, for the city of Dyersville's professional baseball stadium.

Rules. The Board approved administrative rulemakings related to the following items:

- Variance procedures for tax increment financing housing projects.
- The Rural Housing Needs Assessment Grant Program.
- The Rural Innovation Grant Program.
- The Empower Rural Iowa Program.
- The Regional Sports Authority.
- The Iowa Tourism Grant Program.

Redevelopment Tax Credit. The [Redevelopment Tax Credit Program](#) for brownfield and grayfield sites provides financial assistance for the acquisition, remediation, and redevelopment of eligible brownfield and grayfield sites. Eligible brownfield properties include abandoned, idled, or underutilized industrial or commercial facilities where expansion or redevelopment is complicated by real or perceived environmental contamination. Eligible grayfield properties include industrial or commercial property that has been developed and has infrastructure in place but that has an outdated use or prevents a better or more efficient use of the property. The Board approved the following contract amendment requests:

- 12-month extension of the project completion date for DOMOV.
- 12-month extension of the project completion date for Butterfield Holdings.
- Six-month extension of the project completion date for Reinbeck Renovation.
- 12-month extension of the project completion date for 500 North Grand Homes.
- 16-month extension of the project completion date for Charles City Rail Terminal.
- 20-month extension of the project completion date for The Apollo Apartments.
- 18-month extension of the project completion date for HCI Real Estate Company.
- 12-month extension of the project completion date for Neighborhood Development Corp.

Innovation Fund. The [Innovation Fund Tax Credit Program](#) allows a 25.0% tax credit for investments in an innovation fund certified by the IEDA. The certified innovation funds make investments in early-stage companies that have a principal place of business in the State. The Board approved the following Innovation Fund Tax Credits:

- \$5,000 for one application from ISA Ventures Fund.
- \$77,000 for six applications from Next Level Ventures Fund II.
- \$156,000 for 14 applications from Next Level Ventures Fund III.

Manufacturing 4.0 Program. The [Manufacturing 4.0 Technology Investment Program](#) provides grants to assist small- and mid-sized companies with the adoption and integration of smart technologies into existing operations. The Board approved \$2.0 million in grants to 33 applicants.

Reinvestment District. The Reinvestment District Program is designed to assist communities in developing transformative projects that improve quality of life; create and enhance unique opportunities; and substantially benefit the community, region, and State. The Program provides up to \$100.0 million in new hotel/motel and sales tax revenues to be invested within approved districts. The Board heard an update on the Merle Hay Reinvestment District.

Elections/Appointments. The Board elected the following individuals:

- Doug Boone to be Chair of the Board.
- Bobbi Bentz to be Vice Chair of the Board.

The Board made the following committee appointments:

- Emily Schmitt to the Due Diligence Committee.
- Doug Boone to the Due Diligence Committee.
- Bobbi Bentz to the Due Diligence Committee.

- Melissa Spurgin to the Due Diligence Committee, the CAT Program Application Review Committee, and the Sports Tourism and Infrastructure Program Application Review Committee.
- John Riches to the Due Diligence Committee.
- Pankaj Monga to the Technology Commercialization Committee.
- Mark Kittrell to the CAT Program Application Review Committee and the Sports Tourism and Infrastructure Program Application Review Committee.
- Jenny Steffensmeier to the CAT Program Application Review Committee and the Sports Tourism and Infrastructure Program Application Review Committee.
- Brenda Mainwaring to the CAT Program Application Review Committee and the Sports Tourism and Infrastructure Program Application Review Committee.
- Rachel Eubank to the CAT Program Application Review Committee and the Sports Tourism and Infrastructure Program Application Review Committee.

Reports. Terry Roberson, Accounting Director, provided an update to the Board regarding the budget and finances for the IEDA.

Next Meeting. The next Board meeting will take place on May 16, 2025.

LSA Staff Contact: Evan Johnson (515.281.6301) evan.johnson@legis.iowa.gov

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