
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

May 8, 2025



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BOARD OF CORRECTIONS MEETING — APRIL 2025

Meeting. The Board of Corrections met virtually on April 11, 2025. Meeting materials and a recording of the meeting are available through the Department of Corrections (DOC) [website](#).

Chief of Staff Update. Chief of Staff, Paul Cornelius, provided the following updates:

- The DOC legislative breakfast was on January 28, 2025.
- The DOC hosted a tour for the Department of Management at Fort Madison.
- Recidiviz visited the DOC in February.
- The DOC held a feedback forum for the Sixth District.
- The National Institute of Corrections met with the DOC's wellness committee in March.
- Crime Victims' Rights Week was the week of April 7, 2025.
- The emergency preparedness event took place at the end of April.

Budget Update. Steve Dick, Financial Manager, provided a budget update. The DOC is at 71.0% of its expenditure budget as of April 11, 2025, and is anticipating being at approximately 75.0% at the end of May 2025. There are multiple projects underway, including the Clarinda Kitchen project, electrical upgrade at Oakdale, and an apprenticeship program at Mount Pleasant. The DOC has 223 total positions vacant as of April 4, 2025.

Legislative Update. Jen Rathje, Legislative Liaison, provided a legislative update. Legislation can be found on the legislative [website](#).

Third Judicial District Director Hire. Paul Cornelius, Chief of Staff, introduced Mark Covey as the candidate for the position of Director of the Third District. The Board approved Covey as District Director.

Seventh Judicial District Director Hire. Paul Cornelius, Chief of Staff, introduced Rob Metzger as the candidate for the position of Director of the Seventh District. The Board approved Metzger as District Director.

Iowa Domestic Abuse Program (IDAP) Presentation. The IDAP Lean Group gave a presentation on IDAP improvements. The IDAP program provides a group education process for men and women who practice a pattern of abusive behavior.

Public Comments. Members of the public expressed concerns about the multidisciplinary team evaluation process, the Attorney General's Office, civil commitment, overcrowding, solitary confinement, religious services, the phone system, video calls, and air conditioning and hot water within the institutions. Board members expressed appreciation for the public comments.

Next Meeting. The next Board meeting is scheduled for July 18, 2025.

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Doc ID 1526622