Legislative Services Agency
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Fiscal Services Division

Fiscal Update Article

Iowa Public Information Board — October 15, 2026

November 13, 2026

Meeting

The Iowa Public Information Board (Board) met on Thursday, October 15, 2026, at the Jessie Parker Building in Des Moines. A copy of the Board's agenda can be found on the Board's website.

Minutes

The Board approved the minutes from the September 17, 2026, Board meeting.

Accepted Cases

The Board accepted 34 consent agenda complaint allegations. The Board found that these complaint allegations fall under the Board's jurisdiction, are legally sufficient, and could have merit pursuant to Iowa Code section 23.8(1).

Dismissed Cases

The Board dismissed five consent agenda complaint allegations. The Board found that these complaint allegations did not fall under the Board's jurisdiction, were legally insufficient, were harmless error, or did not have merit pursuant to Iowa Code section 23.8(2).

Status Report

The Board approved a status report regarding a complaint alleging a violation of Iowa Code chapter 21 by the Mount Union Benefitted Fire District for not providing public notice of official meetings. The Board found that the respondent did not adhere to the informal resolution that was agreed upon by the parties involved. The Board agreed to initiate a contested case proceeding.

Investigative Reports

The Board deliberated on the following investigative reports:

- A complaint alleging a violation of Iowa Code chapters 21 and 22 by the city of Decatur for discussing official business not noticed on a meeting agenda and for not providing public records. The Board found that there is insufficient evidence that a violation had occurred and dismissed the complaint for a lack of probable cause.
- A complaint alleging a violation of Iowa Code chapter 22 by the city of Davenport Police Department for charging an unreasonable fee for providing public records. The complaint was filed after the 60-day filing deadline, and the Board dismissed the complaint as a result.
- A complaint alleging a violation of Iowa Code chapter 22 by the Bettendorf Police Department for not providing public records and body-worn camera footage by an officer, and for charging unreasonable fees. The Board found that the records in question do not exist and that the respondent remedied the fees; therefore, the Board dismissed the complaint as a matter of administrative discretion.

- A complaint alleging a violation of Iowa Code chapter 22 by the city of Eldon for withholding public records regarding the complainant's drug test. The Board found that the respondent provided all public records requested and dismissed the complaint for a lack of probable cause.
- A complaint alleging a violation of Iowa Code chapter 22 by the city of Soldier for not providing public records regarding a water line. The Board found that the public records in question do not exist and dismissed the complaint for a lack of probable cause.
- A complaint alleging a violation of Iowa Code chapter 21 by the Iowa Valley Community College District for failing to post a meeting agenda 24 hours in advance. The Board found that there is insufficient evidence to find probable cause and dismissed the complaint.
- A complaint alleging a violation of Iowa Code chapter 22 by the city of Runnells for including unredacted personal information in a meeting agenda. The Board found that the respondent had discretion regarding including the personal information and dismissed the complaint for a lack of probable cause.
- A complaint alleging a violation of Iowa Code chapter 22 by the Dubuque County Board of Supervisors for not providing public records. The Board found that the public records in question are confidential and dismissed the complaint for a lack of probable cause.
- A complaint alleging a violation of Iowa Code chapter 22 by the Council Bluffs Police Department for not providing body-worn camera footage. The respondent provided the footage and the complainant requested to close the case; therefore, the Board dismissed the complaint for a lack of probable cause.
- A complaint alleging a violation of Iowa Code chapter 22 by Des Moines Area Community College for not providing telephone call logs. The Board found that the respondent provided all existing records and dismissed the complaint for a lack of probable cause.

Informal Resolution Reports

The Board approved six informal resolution reports for the following complaint allegations:

- A violation of Iowa Code chapter 21 by the city of Parnell for improperly holding an official meeting over text message. As part of the informal resolution, the parties agreed to the following terms:
  - The respondent will approve of the informal resolution at the next city council meeting with acknowledgment of the violation.
  - The respondent will attend training on Iowa Code chapter 21.
  - The respondent will develop a checklist to assist with meeting the requirements of Iowa Code chapter 21.
  - The text messages in question will be included in the meeting minutes by the respondent.
- A violation of Iowa Code chapter 22 by the Wapello County Board of Supervisors and the Wapello County Secondary Roads Department for declining to provide public records. As part of the informal resolution, the parties agreed to the following terms:
  - The respondents acknowledge that a violation occurred.
  - The respondents agree to designate an employee or official to administer the requirements of Iowa Code chapter 22 and provide the contact information upon request.
  - The respondents are to provide proof of updated policies to the Board.
  - The respondents will attend Iowa Code chapters 21 and 22 training and provide certificates of completion to the Board.
  - The respondents will review the public records in question for confidentiality and provide nonconfidential records to the complainant.
- A violation of Iowa Code chapters 21 and 22 by Kids World Inc. for discussing items not on an official meeting agenda. As part of the informal resolution, the parties agreed to the following terms:

    - The respondent is an Iowa Code chapter 28E organization and therefore subject to the requirements of Iowa Code chapter 21 but is not subject to the requirements of Iowa Code chapter 22.
    - The respondent acknowledges that the meeting agenda in question was inadequate.
    - The respondent will create Iowa Code chapter 21 procedures and provide a copy to the Board.
    - The officials responsible for administering Iowa Code chapter 21 will attend training.
    - The respondent will agree to the requirements of the informal resolution at a meeting and will provide a copy of the minutes to the Board.
- A violation of Iowa Code chapter 22 by the Wapello County Board of Supervisors and the Wapello County Secondary Roads Department for not providing public records. As part of the informal resolution, the parties agreed to the following terms:
    - The respondents are required to comply with the request for public records and will designate an official to administer the requirements of Iowa Code chapter 22.
    - The respondents will draft and submit policy changes to the Board for review and the Board will adopt these policies.
    - The respondents will attend training on Iowa Code chapters 21 and 22 and provide certificates of completion to the Board.
- A violation of Iowa Code chapter 22 by the Iowa City Police Department for asserting blanket confidentiality for all police investigations regarding public records. As part of the informal resolution, the parties agreed to the following terms:
    - The respondent will review its public records policy to ensure compliance with Iowa Code chapter 22 and provide a copy of the policy to the Board.
    - The respondent will provide confirmation to the Board that an updated public records policy has been implemented.
    - The respondent will attend training on Iowa Code chapter 22.
    - The terms of the informal resolution will be completed within 60 days of the agreement.
- A violation of Iowa Code chapter 21 by the Wapello County Board of Supervisors for not properly noticing an agenda item during a meeting. As part of the informal resolution, the parties agreed to the following terms:
    - The respondent will update the minutes to the meeting in question.
    - The respondent will develop a checklist to assist with meeting the requirements of Iowa Code chapter 21.
    - The respondent will attend training on Iowa Code chapters 21 and 22.
    - The respondent will approve the informal resolution during an open meeting and will provide the minutes of the meeting to the Board.

Next Meeting

The next Board meeting will be held on November 19, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. at the Jessie Parker Building in Des Moines.

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