



GOVERNOR TERRY E.

ROBERT C. KING, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

January 8, 2014

Subject: 2014 Infrastructure Status Report to the Iowa Department of Management and the Iowa Legislative Services Agency

This report contains expenditure information concerning the Iowa Department of Veterans Affairs projects funded by State of Iowa General Funds during Fiscal Year 2013.

Funding code: 920SD 670 6700V210001.0.

Amount of funding: \$137,940.

Description of project: Funds appropriated for remodeling and upgrades to office space at Camp Dodge.

Progress of work: The work was completed on time as scheduled. We relocated to the new offices during July 2013.

Detail: This was a new appropriation for Fiscal Year 2014. The Department was housed in an old (pre-World War II) building that was energy inefficient, not easily accessible, and did not provide an adequate work environment to serve our veteran customers. The old building is being readied to be raised. We have relocated to the new Building 3465 (formerly W41) and the renovations have been completed in a satisfactory manner. The renovations and improvements include ADA compliant accessibility, improvements to the HVAC system and fire suppression system, and related improvements to provide an adequate work environment. The appropriation reflects the State share of the \$378,000 needed for the renovations.

Funding code: 920SD 670 6700V220001.0.

Amount of funding: \$600,000.

Description of project: Funds appropriated for the construction of an American Legion Community Center that supports the Iowa Veterans Cemetery.

Progress of work: The work was completed on time as scheduled. The American Legion Post 403, Van Meter has occupied the new facility, has conducted their grand opening and ribbon cutting, is utilizing the facility for American Legion and community activities, and is fully supporting the needs of families interring loved ones at the nearby Iowa Veterans Cemetery.

Detail: This was a new appropriation for Fiscal Year 2014 and 2015. The Iowa Veterans Cemetery, located at Van Meter, is the first federally-funded construction of a state-owned and operated cemetery. The Iowa Veterans Cemetery opened for internments in July 2008. The cemetery is on 100 acres of donated property and has capacity for over 80,000 burial spaces. As of this date, 1,806 veterans and eligible family members have been interred at the cemetery. Over 6,000 applications for internment at the cemetery are on file. The nearby American Legion Post 403, which is located approximately one mile from the cemetery had undertaken steps to construct a new building which could provide a location for hospitality gatherings for family and friends of veterans being interred. The total project cost approximately \$1,191,000 for construction. This additional funding was required for furnishings. Private donations contributed to the building construction in addition to the State funds provided. The building is available for other community activities.

Funding code: 920SD 670 6700V040017.0.

Amount of funding: \$250,000.

Description of project: Funds appropriated for the expansion of an equipment and vehicle storage building at the Iowa Veterans Cemetery. The appropriated funds have been obligated though not expended.

Detail: This was a new appropriation for Fiscal Year 2014. The cemetery has a number of pieces of equipment that has been stored outdoors and unprotected from the weather. The funds have been used to expand the existing vehicle and equipment storage building at the Iowa Veterans Cemetery, located at Van Meter. The Department applied for and received a \$919,612 federal grant from the State Cemetery Grant Program administered by the National Cemetery Administration. The State appropriation as the federal grant is eligible for the use of design of the expansion but not for the construction. The completed building will contain 3,636 square feet of storage space. The expansion construction began in July 2013. The total \$1,169,612 federal-state funded project includes a 960-niche columbaria plaza, construction of a new pump house and irrigation pumping system, and the expansion of the vehicle and equipment building. The construction was slower by wet weather in July and August and now has been stopped by cold weather. The inability to complete concrete work at each construction project has setback the completion date. We are now expecting an early Spring 2014 completion.

Please contact me at 515.727.3444 if there are questions or comments about the content of this report.

Sincerely,

/Original signed/

Robert C. King
Executive Director
Iowa Department of Veterans Affairs