
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

March 18, 2024



Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING — MARCH 4, 2024

Meeting. The Executive Council met on Monday, March 4, 2024. The following are agenda items approved by the Council:

- The Council approved meeting minutes for the Executive Council meeting held on February 5, 2024.
- The Council approved the Attorney General's Office request for payment of expenses of approximately \$34,000 pursuant to Iowa Code section [7D.10](#).
- The Council approved a request from the Department of Justice, Attorney General's Office, for the retention of special counsel at a rate of \$60 per hour pursuant to Iowa Code section [13.7](#) to represent the State of Iowa in criminal appeals cases. Attorney fees and costs will be paid from the Attorney General's Office's Forfeiture Fund.
- The Council approved a request from the Department of Justice, Attorney General's Office, for the retention of special counsel at a rate of \$447 per hour for the next year, with two one-year renewal options subject to a \$5-per-hour rate increase pursuant to Iowa Code section 13.7 to represent Iowa PBS on highly specialized Federal Communications Commission matters. Attorney fees and costs will be paid from Iowa PBS.
- The Council approved a lease between the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Interstate Power and Light Company. The lease is for a portion of the bed of the Mississippi River in Allamakee County for the purposes of piling of coal and remediating the parcel. The lease will run from April 1, 2024, to December 31, 2028, and the annual fee of the lease is approximately \$9,000.
- The Council approved emergency allocations totaling approximately \$1.8 million for the following:
 - \$348,000 to the Board of Regents — University of Iowa for repair costs.
 - \$863,000 to the Board of Regents — Iowa State University for repair costs.
 - \$39,000 to the Board of Regents — University of Northern Iowa for repair costs.
 - \$6,000 to the DNR for repair costs.
 - \$64,000 to the Iowa Communications Network (ICN) for repair costs to damaged cables.
 - \$120,000 to the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) for vehicle repairs.
 - \$74,000 to the Department of Public Safety (DPS) for various repair costs.
 - \$262,000 to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to cover repair costs for a derecho causing damages to roofs and trees and causing water damage.
- The Council approved payment of cost items totaling approximately \$399,000 for the following:
 - \$18,000 to the DNR to cover repair costs for a derecho causing damage to multiple parks.
 - \$9,000 to the DNR to cover repair costs for a fire-damaged skid steer at Lake Macbride State Park.
 - \$223,000 to the Board of Regents — University of Iowa for various repair costs.
 - \$24,000 to the DAS for vehicle repairs.
 - \$112,000 to the DPS for various repair costs.
 - \$100 to the DNR for drainage assessments pursuant to Iowa Code section [468.43](#).
 - \$100 from the Iowa Department of Revenue (IDR) for legal services to State agencies on issues related to the visa status of prospective State employees.
 - \$4,000 from the Attorney General's Office's Forfeiture Fund for legal fees.
 - \$5,000 from the General Fund for legal fees.
 - \$3,000 from the Second Injury Fund for legal fees.
- The Council took note of the following information item: The Benton Washington Levee made its second contingency loan payment of approximately \$56,000. The loan was approved for

approximately \$1.0 million on June 8, 2020, and is prorated not to exceed 20 years. Total repayment to date is approximately \$366,000.

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