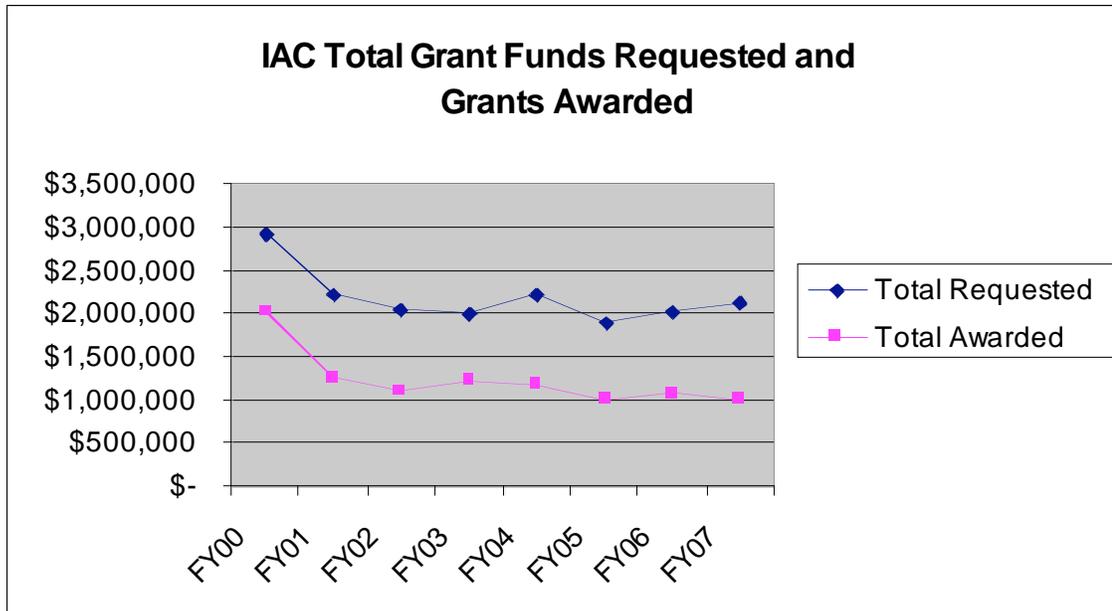
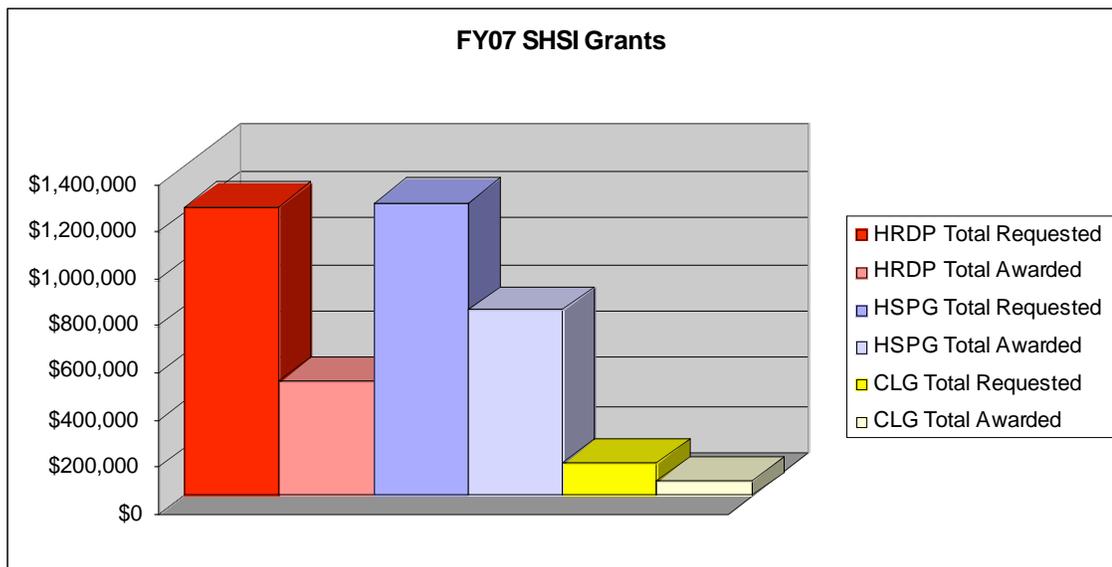


## Cultural Heritage Supporting Data and Information

### Iowa Arts Council Funding Demand and Available Resources

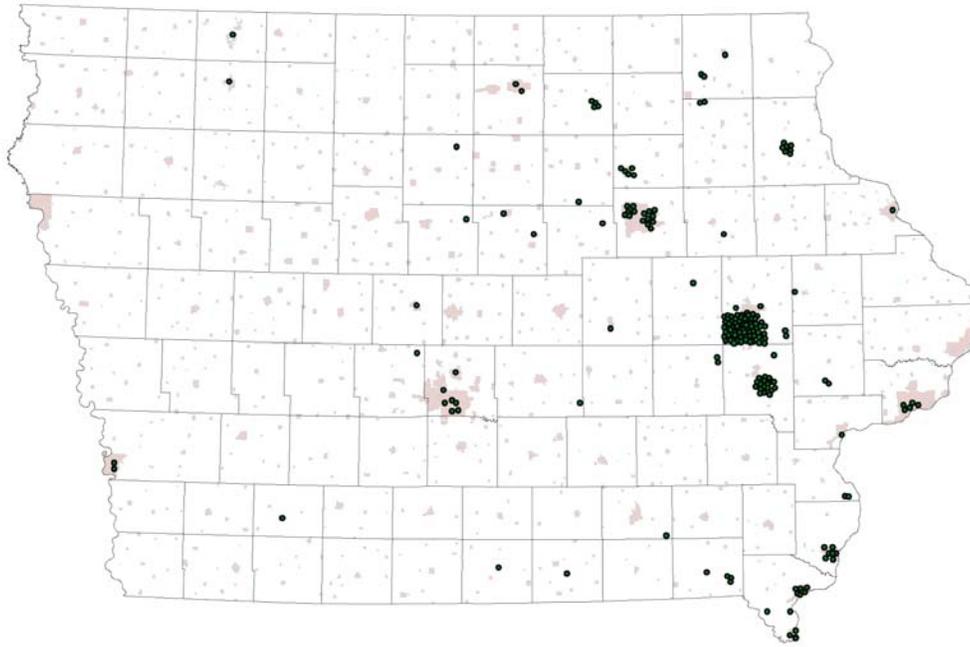


### State Historical Society Funding Demand and Available Resources

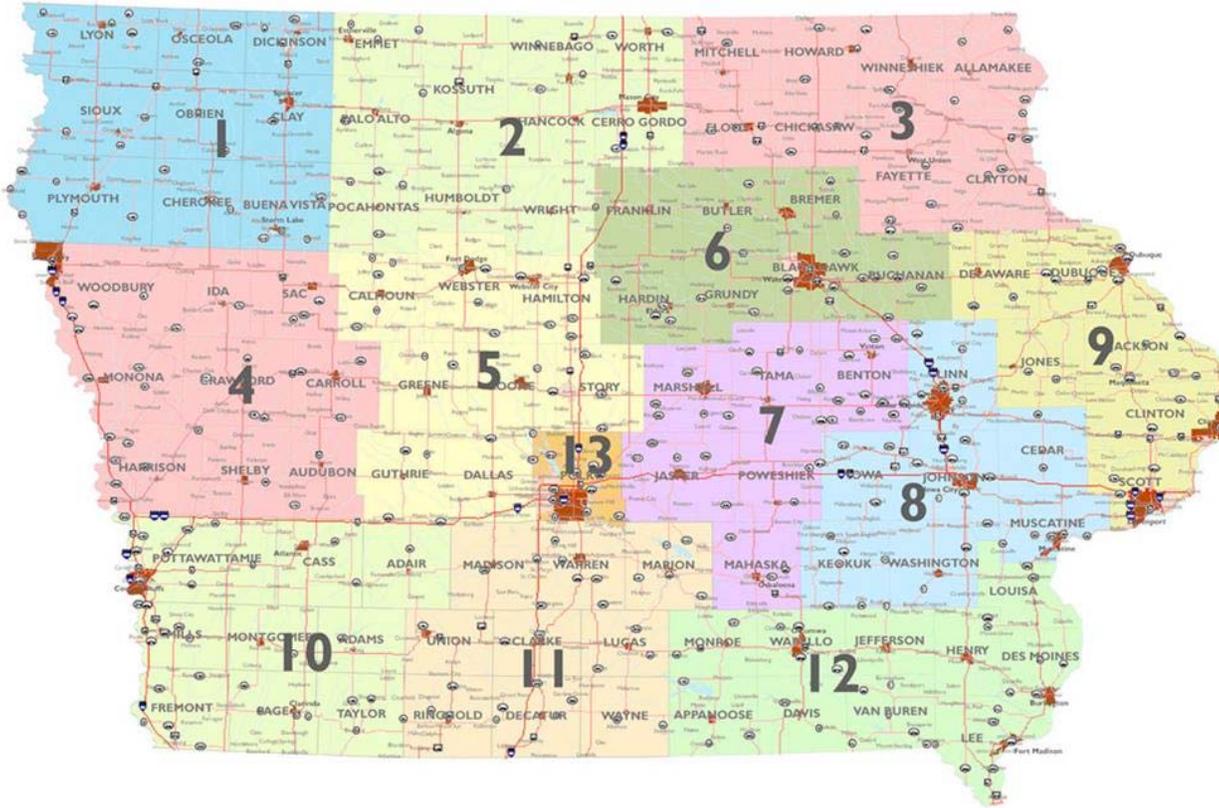


Available Information on Flooding of Cultural Institutions by the Department of Cultural Affairs

## DCA Flood Report Map



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## Iowan culture a flood casualty

By Alan Gomez, USA TODAY

Advertisement

CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa — The historic floods that washed through much of the Midwest didn't ruin just homes, businesses and farmlands. They also sank a massive Wurlitzer theater organ that served as the soundtrack for silent films in the 1920s and has since become a historical icon in this Iowa city.

The floods also decimated jazz clubs, Museums, Arts schools, Century-old buildings. Up and down the Mississippi River, precious symbols of America's history were washed away or covered in layers of mud.

### PHOTO GALLERY: Floods cramp culture in Midwest

"It's a blow on multiple levels," says David Shayt of the Smithsonian National Museum of American History. "The history of the Midwest is full of enterprise and innovation. It's quite vital to understand that area now that a bright light is being shined on it, unfortunately by Mother Nature."

Neal Marple remembers seeing the "Mighty Wurlitzer" for the first time as a child when his grandfather took him to the Paramount Theatre for a performance. With the theater dark and quiet, the Wurlitzer rose up on an elevator, the spotlight hit it, and it began blaring.

"All of a sudden, boom. All the sound you can ever imagine coming out of one room," says Marple, a member of a theater organ preservation group in Cedar Rapids. "It's quite an experience."

The organ — one of fewer than 40 in the country that have remained in their original homes — was knocked off its platform when the Paramount flooded. Marple estimates it will cost at least \$100,000 to repair.

But because theater organs fell out of the mainstream as soon as sound hit the big screen, few people remain who can re-create the organs' handcrafted parts. That has Marple and others worried about the future of the Paramount organ and a second theater organ in Cedar Rapids that was damaged.

"This organ holds a lot of meaning to a lot of people," Marple says. "We'd like to put it back in its home."

### Many lost treasures

Nearby, the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library took on 8 feet of water, soaking about 20% of its collection that could not be removed in time.

The museum opened its new main building in 1995, and President Bill Clinton and the heads of state of the Czech and Slovak republics attended the dedication.

"These are the treasures that immigrants brought with them and then handed down to their families," says museum

president Gail Naughton. "Many of them were made in the old country, but some of them are made by people here when they got here in their new life."

At the African American Historical Museum and Cultural Center of Iowa, the entire first floor was flooded, destroying the main exhibit chronicling the lives of African Americans in Iowa.

Both museums have teamed with a conservation group in Chicago to salvage many waterlogged items. But many items will be lost.

"Culture and history are so integral to a community — knowing who it is, where it came from. You as a citizen need to know 'Where's my place?' Naughton says. "The redevelopment of all these cultural assets is going to be critical to our long-term recovery."

Farther downstream at the University of Iowa, the art school was nearly wiped out.

John Beldon Scott, director of the department's summer program, says they are unsure where they will move; the floods hit all of their buildings. He said the equipment for such hands-on programs as old-time wet photography, ceramics and sculpture will also be costly and difficult to replace.

More damaging to the psyche of the program, Scott says, was the flooding of the school's newest building. Designed by Steven Holl Architects in New York and opened in 2006, it was an architectural landmark on campus.

Scott says the university has committed to reopening that building quickly, to send a message of recovery to students and the entire region.

"It was a tremendous blow to see this iconic building with four-and-a-half feet of water," Scott says. "That has a lot of symbolic value for a university that has emphasized the arts in the way that the University of Iowa has. It's part of the identity of the university."

### **The day the music died**

The area also lost smaller treasures that weren't as prominent, but were just as critical to the area's identity.

In Cedar Rapids' Czech neighborhood — a working-class area along the Cedar River — Craig Erickson estimates that at least eight jazz clubs were flooded. Erickson owns the Music Loft, a music store and recording studio in a 1913 brick building.

"It's very sad," Erickson says. "It's a thriving area in Cedar Rapids for live music."

Cedar Rapids also had about 35 buildings that were on the National Register of Historic Places that were damaged by the floods, according to James Kern.

Kern is the executive director of Brucemore, a historic mansion in Cedar Rapids that is hosting preservation efforts throughout the city. Kern says it's frustrating to lose so many cultural treasures.

"The history of culture here is deep and legendary," he said.

*Contributing: Oren Dorell in Cedar Rapids*

### **Find this article at:**

[http://www.usatoday.com/weather/floods/2008-07-16-floodculture\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/weather/floods/2008-07-16-floodculture_N.htm)



July 30, 2008

## No tax credits available to rebuild Czech Village, official says

BY JENNIFER JACOBS  
REGISTER STAFF WRITER

Two dozen historic buildings in the flood-ravaged Czech Village and Bohemian Historic District in Cedar Rapids are ready to begin reconstruction, but they've have hit a road block, an advocate says.

"They don't have enough tax credits," said Rod Scott of the Iowa Historic Preservation Alliance. "They need them for money to repair their buildings."

The state makes \$20 million in tax credits available each year for historic preservation projects, but all the credits have already been committed, Scott told a task force of 26 Iowans today.

The task force, which is studying cultural heritage in the wake of recent weather-related disasters, will call for state lawmakers to lift its cap and offer unlimited credits.

The group is one of nine task forces that will send its recommendations to the Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission, which will compile a final by Sept. 2.

The only public incentives available for repairs of historic commercial buildings are state tax credits for up to 25 percent of the value of the project, and federal tax credits for up to 20 percent. The federal program issues unlimited credits.

To qualify, a building must be listed on the National Register of Historic Places

Some owners of historic buildings get cash by selling the credits to big corporations who then use the credits to reduce their own tax liability, Scott said.

Cyndi Pederson, director of the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs, said her office would like to see the cap on state tax credits at least raised.

"I feel we'll lose some of our historic fabric if we don't loosen these rules a little bit," said Pederson, who is a task force member.

Also today, the task force decided to recommend that the records center that stores some state documents be relocated.

Historical officials had to pack up documents at the current site on Morgan Street and move them to the state fairgrounds when flooding threatened downtown Des Moines earlier this summer.

But the semi trailers carrying the 24,000 boxes leaked, and 39 boxes will have to go through freeze-drying process, she said.

"We shouldn't be in a flood plain when we're entrusted with state records," Pederson said.

Across Iowa, theaters, costumes, props, art studios, art collections, museums and historical artifacts were damaged or destroyed in the flooding, Pederson told the task force.

The entities affected include 73 arts-related organizations, 67 historical sites, 24 museums and 22 groups with collections of documents.

A total of 137 non-profit organizations in Iowa have applied for federal aid, said Dennis Harper of Iowa Homeland Security.

"Creme de la creme" historic properties were hurt, said Barbara Mitchell, the deputy state historic preservation officer.

Among them are the Amana Mill Race which had just wrapped up 1993 flood repairs; the George Verity towboat which was dry docked in Keokuk but had water over its deck; and a Frank Lloyd Wright house in Charles City whose owner is not well enough to undertake reconstruction, Mitchell said.

In Cedar Rapids alone, about 75 percent of cultural entities there were hit by flood waters.

"Whether it's true or not, we feel like we are at ground zero on this devastation," said Jim Kern, director of the Brucemore mansion in Cedar Rapids.

Of 11 museums or cultural education centers there, eight remain out of business, including the Science Station, the Museum of Art and the African American Historical Museum. Open are Brucemore, the Grant Wood Studio and the History Center, Kern said.

Art and historical places are often trying to prove their worth "and you don't realize what you had until it's gone," Kern said.

The task force members said they want to send out a reminder of the role and value of culture in Iowa.

"We're a room of true believers but in the big world of Iowa," said Sue Olson of the National Czech Slovak Museum Library. "I think there are some people who may not recognize the value of culture in Iowa."

"In these institutions are our history," said Sandi Yoder of the Iowa Museum Association. "It's everything that makes us Iowans."

In addition to compiling a list of everything that's lost or at risk of being lost, it's important to make a permanent record of the moment in time when the disasters hit.

The stories of the people who lived through Parkersburg tornado and flooding elsewhere need to be captured, said Bob Neymeyer, a Parkersburg resident who works as a historian in Waterloo.

"The stories are really, really raw," he said.

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**THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.**

O N L I N E

August 12, 2008

Art

## Repairing Art Damaged By Natural Disasters

By JOEL HENNING

August 12, 2008; Page D7

Chicago

Water from the Iowa River was rapidly creeping up the walls of the University of Iowa's Museum of Art during June's floods. Ann Kennedy Haag of the Chicago Conservation Center was masked in a respirator to protect her from highly toxic black mold. She was holding one of the works of art that she and her colleagues, along with museum staff and volunteers, were attempting to rescue. Then the power went out, as it did repeatedly while they struggled to get the remaining art out of there. "We had to freeze and just stand there holding the pieces until the power came back on, which often took several minutes."



Chicago Conservation Center  
A worker cleaning waterlogged textiles at the National Czech  
& Slovak Museum in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Polllock, Beckmann, Kandinsky, along with a highly valued African collection.

Each time the power failed, the electronic scrubbers removing black mold from the air also failed. "Even with our respirators on," recalls Ms. Haag, "we would have to go outside from time to time -- because when the scrubbers failed, the mold made us sick." If gagging on mold wasn't bad enough, she added, "the place smelled horrible because the flood waters were full of farm waste, gasoline and sewage."

Several days earlier, before the dikes were breached, the Chicago conservators had worked with museum staffers, volunteers and other art handlers to remove as much of the collection as possible -- including works by Picasso, Braque,

Working nearly nonstop during the week of June 9, the professional and volunteer teams evacuated works constituting about 99% of the value of the museum's collection and representing nearly 80% of many thousands of works. "We had to inventory and assess every piece to determine how it should be wrapped and packed for moving," Heather Becker, CEO of the Conservation Center, told me. What they couldn't get out of the museum before the rising flood waters forced their getaway, they moved to higher levels. The center, which was called in by the museum's insurance underwriters, Loyd's of London, is involved in disaster recovery nationally because it uniquely can field conservators skilled in virtually all media including painting,

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sculpture, prints and photography, as well as furniture.

The daunting work amid the mold occurred two weeks later, when the rescue crew was readmitted to the building to remove the remaining art. Often working in the dark with spelunkers' headlamps, taking essential breaks because of the black mold, the center's team worked for almost a month to remove the last 3,000 to 4,000 works, wrap and package them, and load them on refrigerator trucks for shipment to the mold containment area for evaluation and restoration at the center's Chicago headquarters.

Bad as the Iowa River flood was for the university's art museum in Iowa City, the Cedar River made an even more formidable assault on the museums of Cedar Rapids, including the National Czech & Slovak Museum. While a 400-pound chandelier of Bohemian crystal remained above the flood waters, the river rushed through most of the museum's collection of Czech and Slovak textiles, which includes leather coats, leather vests, and vividly colored, embroidered and beaded clothing. When conservators from the center arrived on June 19, 15 feet of flood water had just receded from within the building.

The flood heaved the collection against the downstream walls as if there had been a tidal wave of mud. "When we began to remove objects, they were so heavily covered in mud that we didn't know what they were," recalls Joe Gott, a senior arts handler for the center. "We set up a triage system in the museum's parking lot, consisting first of a series of nine laundry tubs. As textiles were brought out, they were separated by color. In the first tubs, we loosened and scraped the mud off. We ran them through several successive basins of gradually cleaner water, gently brushing the fabrics. After they had been washed as well as possible, we blotted them and set them on racks to dry."

Throughout that flood recovery effort over almost a week, the center, summoned here by the museum's restoration contractor, found volunteer help invaluable. Locals brought towels donated by a hotel and helped man the washtubs and drying racks. "Finally we put the material in boxes and packed our refrigerator trucks for the trip back to Chicago for evaluation and restoration. Our final goal will be to have our conservators clean and repair everything they can," Mr. Gott said. "We could simply have loaded the 1,200 pieces from the Czech and Slovak Museum into the freezer trucks," Ms. Becker commented, "but when we can do triage on the scene the results are better."

The center worked entirely on site when it was called in by several private collectors who suffered soot-damage to their works by Botero, Calder, Warhol, Lichtenstein, Matisse and Picasso in last year's fires in California's Rancho Santa Fe, near San Diego. There, they set up "clean rooms" in the collectors' homes, totally encapsulating them by stretching plastic on all the rooms' surfaces -- ceilings, floors, windows -- and worked in them to remove soot from the art. "The less moving of valuable pieces, the better," counsels Ms. Becker.

That couldn't be done with the flood-damaged art and antiques that were among the pieces the center recovered after Hurricane Katrina from the New Orleans Museum of Art and several private collections. Among the beautifully restored items about to be returned to a New Orleans home are two Sheraton sideboards with boxwood inlaid veneer and brass hardware that the center staff recovered from several feet of water.

Closer to the center's Chicago home, Ms. Becker was instrumental in recovering the multimillion-dollar LaSalle Bank photography collection when the bank's Chicago headquarters suffered a fire

in December 2004. "To organize the recovery, inventory and take down a collection of 4,500 works and then preserve the ones damaged by smoke, soot and water was an amazing job," says retired La Salle Bank CEO Norman R. Bobins. The collection dates back to an 1839 photo by William Henry Fox Talbot and includes work by Ansel Adams, William Eggleston and Edward Weston. Remarkably, only about 50 prints were irretrievably damaged. Ironically, when Ms. Becker and the collection's curator, Carol Ehlers, were struggling through a stairway with one of the prints, they were stunned to see that it depicted the devastating 1871 Chicago Fire. (The bank was recently acquired by Bank of America, which plans to maintain the collection.)

So what should even those of us with modest art collections do to minimize risk in the event of floods, fires, hurricanes and the like? Ms. Becker suggests that we "regularly update inventories and appraisals and keep insurance coverage up to date. Always keep an off-site copy; otherwise your access to vital information can be challenging when a disaster occurs."

Only 25% of the center's conservation work is disaster response. An equal percentage comes from museums. The other half involves private and corporate collectors. Recalling their efforts to save the remaining artifacts at the University of Iowa's Museum of Art, Ms. Haag says: "When the lights went out while we were trying to breathe through the black mold, inventorying and packing pre-Columbian artifacts with light only from our headlamps . . . awful as it was, I realized how much I love my job."

*Mr. Henning writes about arts and culture for the Journal.*

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<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB121850221489531801.html>

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August 14, 2008

## Arts sites at U of I to be dark 6 months to 2 years

By **BEN FORNELL**  
*Register Correspondent*

Iowa City, Ia. - The University of Iowa's performance arts buildings will be without music, dance and theater for between six months and two years, school officials said Wednesday.

Hancher Auditorium, the Voxman Music Building, Clapp Recital Hall and the Theatre Building were some of the most soaked parts of campus after the Iowa River swelled out of its banks during June's record flooding, university officials said during a tour.

In all, the buildings sustained nearly \$27 million in damage, according to university estimates. Water struck 20 buildings on campus, but the arts campus suffered most. The total damage estimate for the university is \$232 million.

Hancher, which draws international acts for Iowa audiences, may be ready for performances again during the 2009-2010 year, but nothing has been scheduled, according to Hancher Executive Director Chuck Swanson. Officials will decide next week where performances scheduled for this year will be held.

"This next year is really going to prove we're more than a building," Swanson said. "Nothing can stop us, not even a flood."

He added that the university has hired experts in theater-specific areas such as acoustics and stage construction to advise in the refurbishment.

"We want to make Hancher not just how it was, but even better," Swanson said.

The Voxman Music Building had 3 feet of water standing on its first floor, with drywall and Sheetrock being completely stripped halfway up the walls.

The building has 125 teaching and practice rooms, five with organs ranging in value from \$100,000 to more than \$500,000. The school plans to repair the organs, said interim music school director Mark Weiger.

Classes and practice space for music students will be moved to the first floors of newly constructed apartment buildings east of the Iowa River.

The Theatre Building had water reaching the basement ceiling and covering the costume shop in slick muck. But costumes and more than 10,000 props were moved to the second floor of the building, said Alan MacVey, chairman of the theater department.

MacVey said the Theatre Building may be ready by spring semester 2009, but one of the two large performances scheduled for this fall will be postponed, and the other will be held at City High School.

About 20 smaller performances will be moved to other spaces on campus, he said. "All you need is a space and some actors to make things happen," MacVey said.

The U of I will open the Adler Journalism Building, the Becker Communication Building and

**the English-Philosophy Building for fall classes on Aug. 25.**

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## Rebuild Iowa Task Force Cultural Heritage Meeting Notes

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**July 30, 2008 — 9:00 am to 1:15 pm**  
**West Des Moines Learning Resource Center**  
**Community Room, Front Half**  
**3550 George Mills Civic Parkway, West Des Moines, Iowa**

### **Task Force Members Present:**

Karris Golden, Task Force Chair, Waterloo  
Arbe Bareis, Kirkwood Community College, Cedar Rapids  
Carmine Boal, Iowa General Assembly, Ankeny  
Nancy Boettger, Iowa General Assembly, Harlan  
Douglas Elliott, East Central Iowa Council of Governments, Cedar Rapids  
Sam Erickson, Community Housing Initiatives, Inc., Pleasant Hill  
Jason Follett, Iowa Historical Society Board of Trustees, Ankeny  
Michael Hayes, Poweshiek Publications/Gannett, Malcom  
John Herbert, Legion Arts, Cedar Rapids  
Laura Hoover, Amana Colonies Historical Sites Foundation, Swisher  
Wally Horn, Iowa General Assembly, Cedar Rapids  
Jim Kern, BruceMore, Inc., Cedar Rapids  
Rose Middleton, John Deere, Waterloo  
Helen Miller, Iowa General Assembly, Fort Dodge  
Thomas Moore, African American Museum & Cultural Center of Iowa, Hiawatha  
Bob Neymeyer, Grout Museum District, Parkersburg  
Joseph Nolte, Fort Des Moines Museum & Education Center, Des Moines  
Sue Olson, National Czech Slovak Museum and Library, Cedar Rapids  
Cyndi Pederson, Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs, Des Moines  
Tom Smull, Iowa Cultural Coalition, Des Moines  
Timothy Weitzel, Historic Preservation Consultant and Photographer, Iowa City  
Inkyung Westfall, City of Council Bluffs, Council Bluffs  
Sandi Yoder, Iowa Museum Association, West Des Moines

### **Resource Group Members Present:**

Tricia Bender, Office of the State Archaeologist, Coralville  
Jim Cross, Mitchell County Historical Society, Riceville  
Todd Garner, Substance Architecture, Des Moines  
Kathy Gourley, State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines  
Dennis Harper, Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management Division, Johnston  
Gordon Hendrickson, State Historical Society of Iowa, Clive  
Barbara Mitchell, State Historical Society of Iowa, Johnston  
Roderick Scott, Iowa Historic Preservation Alliance, Iowa Falls  
Mary Sundet Jones, Iowa Arts Council, Cedar Rapids  
John Swanson, Children's Science Museum, Cedar Rapids  
Jerome Thompson, State Historical Society of Iowa, Johnston

**Presenters:**

Charles Chaffins, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Public Assistance  
Jim Woodard, FEMA, Individual Assistance Program  
Kevin Wynne, Small Business Administration (SBA)

*Note: All other presenters are Task Force or Resource Group members*

**Observers:**

Noreen Bush, House Republican Caucus, Des Moines  
Syeta Glanton, IGov, Des Moines  
Shauna Haas, FEMA LTRC, Urbandale  
Jennifer Jacobs, Des Moines Register, Des Moines  
Richard Nelson, Legislative Services Agency, Des Moines  
Jenifer Parsons, House Democratic Caucus, Des Moines  
Julie Simon, Senate Democratic Caucus, Des Moines  
Russ Trimble, Senate Republican Caucus, Des Moines  
Douglas Wulf, Legislative Services Agency, Des Moines

**Staff:**

Aaron Todd, Department of Cultural Affairs, RIO Task Force Manager  
Ben Banowitz, SPPG  
Brooke Findley, SPPG  
Michelle Rich, SPPG

**Welcome Introductions, Charge to the Task Force – Karris Golden, Task Force Chair**

Golden began the meeting by explaining the format for the meeting and the charge of the Task Force. Presentations will be given providing information pertinent to the Cultural Heritage Task Force. The Task Force will use this information to develop recommendations for the Governor to make effective plans for short-term recovery and long-term sustainability. The Task Force Chair will report the Task Force's recommendations and suggestions back to the RIO Advisory Commission. The Commission will then, in turn, present its recommendations to the Governor. It is the duty of the Task Force Chair to represent the Task Force's interests on the Advisory Commission. Ms. Golden stated that it was her pleasure to serve as the Task Force Chair for the Cultural Heritage Task Force.

Ms. Golden turned the floor over to Brooke Findley of State Public Policy Group to review the agenda and plans for discussion.

**Planning for the Day – Brooke Findley, State Public Policy Group**

Findley explained that the Task Force had a lot to get done in just a morning, so no formal break would be provided. Findley also explained that the Task Force would have a working lunch.

Findley stated that the Task Force was fortunate to have Ms. Golden as Chair. The Task Force will report back to the Commission through a Task Force Report. The Commission will then, in turn, consider all nine Task Force reports in its report to the Governor within 45 days with recommendations for rebuilding Iowa. The Task Force will collect best practices and damage assessments in order to inform recommendations. By 1:15 the Task Force must have reached consensus so staff may then write the report. The Resource Group is very important in order to best inform the recommendations of the Task Force. Resource Group members were asked to

participate to answer any questions Task Force members may have. Findley thanked the Task Force members for their participation and for lending their expertise and knowledge.

## **Presentation of Information**

### *Overview of Incident and Damage Assessment – Cyndi Pederson, Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs*

Pederson thanked Ms. Golden and the Task Force. Pederson explained that it was with mixed emotions that was here today giving an overview of the devastation Iowa's cultural, history, and arts industries suffered from the tornados, flooding, and storms this summer. The Department of Cultural Affairs works with numerous businesses and individuals that have been impacted by Iowa's weather disasters, including small and large nonprofit arts, culture, and history organizations; city and county offices that maintain official and historic records; historic properties; and others.

Pederson explained that the Task Force will be provided much information this morning, showing the level of damage incurred by Iowa's museums, theaters, art galleries, studios, organizations, individuals, historical properties, cemeteries, archaeological sites, and many other properties and assets has been devastating and, in many cases, catastrophic.

Pederson stated that she was very thankful for the commitment to the mission of the Cultural Heritage Task Force and the Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission. Under the Leadership of Governor Culver and Lt. Governor Judge, the work the Task Force begins today will help guide and shape the future of our entire state as we rebuild a safer, stronger, and smarter Iowa.

Pederson spoke of the hard work of the people of Parkersburg. Neighbors from surrounding communities dropped what they were doing and pitched in to help Parkersburg bury friends and loved ones; clear debris; and rebuild homes and businesses. But even as that process began, the rains came, and more tornados came, and it continued to rain.

Pederson explained the role the Department of Cultural Affairs plays after the disasters. This summer, the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs has been reaching out to Iowans in the cultural, history, and arts industries that have been impacted by severe weather. The Department has been offering and continues to offer:

- Technical and financial resources including:
  - Information about preservation of flood-damaged historic buildings and homes.
  - Contacts for dealing with damage to cemeteries, museum collections, photographs, manuscripts, and other paper records.
  - Connecting people with appropriate resources to match their need.
- The State Historical Society of Iowa has made available emergency REAP/HRDP grants of up to \$15,000.
- The Iowa Arts Council is also making emergency Arts Relief Grants of up to \$500 and continues to search for more funding.

The Department of Cultural Affairs conducted a series of conference calls and created a special email address to help Iowa's cultural, history, and arts leaders provide us reports about weather-related damages. The reports show a level of damage that is widespread and staggering. These damages impact the quality of life of industries that make Iowa a great place to live, work, and visit.

Reports the Department has received to date:

- 73 Arts-related reports and updates,
- 67 Historic Preservation-related reports and updates,
- 24 Museum-related reports and updates,
- 22 Documentary-related reports and updates,
- And 5 reports classified as “other,” i.e. the Great Ape Trust.

The reports document a wide range of information, including:

- Damage to property such as theaters, museums, and historic buildings,
- Organizations displaced because their offices were flooded,
- Artists prevented from entering their studios, some of which were on upper stories of buildings deemed unsafe to enter.

Communities that have reported damage include: Mason City, Waverly, Waterloo, Charles City, Elkader, Decorah, Amana, Fort Madison, Burlington, Oakville, Muscatine, Bonaparte, Cedar Falls, Cedar Rapids, Belmond, Coralville, Des Moines, Ankeny, Keosauqua, Davenport, and Iowa Falls.

The report includes information about what was damaged, such as stages, seating, equipment, sets, costumes, props, supplies, pianos, organs, drywall, plywood, carpet, computers, office supplies, art collections, historical documents, artifacts, collections, boilers, and furnaces,. Lost revenues were also reported.

Organizations housed in damaged buildings have been forced to find temporary office space and alternate sites to present theatrical productions, art exhibitions, and other events previously scheduled. Mold issues continue to be a serious concern. Theaters and historic buildings are being tested for structural integrity. Even as our cultural, history, and arts leaders and workers deal with recovery and rebuilding, most of them are simultaneously assessing and estimating their financial needs while researching and applying for local, state, and federal programs.

The Department asked Iowa’s cultural leaders to voluntarily fill out a simple survey about the level of financial damages they have incurred, their filings with FEMA and the SBA, and to provide information about needs that have not been addressed. The following is a summary of the report findings.

- More than 72% do not have insurance coverage.
- Lost revenue is not covered.
- 42% will not be filing claims with FEMA.

The list is wide and varied according to need. Not only do these cultural, history and arts organizations face the heartache and headache of recovery and rebuilding, their absence from the marketplace is having a negative impact on our economy and threatens the quality of life we have worked so hard for decades to establish.

Pederson asked the Task Force to consider the following:

- The cultural arts generated 3,480 jobs and \$347 million in and around Black Hawk, Montgomery, Pottawattamie, Wapello, Winneshiek, and Woodbury counties, and the 31 counties that surround them during the 12-month period ending last fall.
- A 2006 survey of 63 cultural organizations in 11 Iowa counties in the Cultural Corridor – the Cedar Rapids/Iowa City area – found:
  - \$63.08 million in local economic activity,

- Support for approximately 2,000 FTE jobs,
- \$33.9 million in household income to local residents,
- \$6.2 million in local and state government revenue.
- In Greater Des Moines, a 2006 survey of 37 cultural, artistic, and education venues found:
  - \$87.74 million in sales,
  - \$44.55 million in value-added services,
  - \$29.9 million in labor income,
  - 1,944 jobs.

In addition, the Travel Industry Association of America has documented 81% of adult travelers include a cultural event while on a trip of 50 miles or more away from home. Such travelers also bring the benefit of longer stays and higher average expenditures, in turn generating more revenue for the community. The studies come at a time when Iowa continues to rank nearly last in the country for per capita investment in the arts. Iowa ranks 45th in the nation for state legislative appropriations per capita investment in the arts.

Iowa invests 42 cents per capita to support the arts, while the national average is \$1.04. If there was ever a time for Iowa to strengthen its investment and commitment to its cultural, history and arts industries, it is now.

Pederson asked the Task Force to consider the following questions as discussion progresses:

- What are the best practice policies that the Task Force can identify and implement to get Iowa artists, cultural organizations and businesses back to work?
- What steps do Iowans take to once again provide and improve the quality of life to people who live and visit here?
- How can the Task Force make sure Iowa does not lose its theaters, concerts, symphonies, operas, art galleries, museums, historical sites, and other venues, organizations, and events?

Pederson stated that much of Iowa's historical fabric is in jeopardy. Does the Task Force lift the cap on historic preservation tax credits to give investors more opportunities to invest in the rehabilitation of Iowa's historical properties for adaptive reuse? What are the long-range issues involved with saving Iowa's historic structures that make Iowa unique and authentic? How do Iowans educate people about historic preservation and what it means to the state's authenticity and identity?

Pederson shared a story from the Cedar Rapids flooding. After the floodwaters began to recede in Cedar Rapids, and people started to assess and understand the full impact of what they'd been through, Matt Losch waded through the basement of Theatre Cedar Rapids to retrieve letter for the marquee out front. He removed the old message and replaced it with a song title from the theatre's upcoming show: "We're All in This Together." Those simple words reflect the silver lining in the dark clouds that have swept through Iowa this summer.

Pederson thanked the Chair for the opportunity to share her thoughts.

*Impact on Museums and Other Cultural Organizations – Sandi Yoder, Iowa Museum Association*

Yoder stated that she would like to reiterate what Pederson said about the needs of our cultural institutions. Yoder explained that the words she had heard most that ring true of Iowa's cultural

institutions have been “devastating and impacting.” The size of the need is huge. Small and large institutions, large and small budgets have been significantly impacted. In these institutions lie Iowa’s history and creative traditions. Yoder stated that Iowa could not forget about these institutions.

Yoder explained that small institutions are charged a lot of fees for rebuilding and planning. If Iowa is rebuilding, then the rebuilding needs to be innovative. Museums serve all sorts of people – early education, retired people, and others.

Yoder stated that these institutions are a large part of the cultural component of the communities they serve. They are an integral part of local economies and historical traditions. The Task Force is here to make sure cultural organizations get equal billing with other parts of the planning as part of the rebuilding efforts. Yoder thanked the Task Force.

*Impact on Arts and Historical Organizations – Jim Kern, Brucemore, Inc.*

Kern stated that he was primarily representing Cedar Rapids on the Task Force. The numbers from Cedar Rapids are indicative of the level of damage; Cedar Rapids residents feel as if they are ground zero in the disasters. It is Cedar Rapids’ best estimate that 75 to 80% of the city’s cultural institutions have been impacted in the disasters.

Cedar Rapids is the economic engine for Eastern Iowa. Kern stated that the city feels it has tremendous opportunity to build better. They are in the middle of a miracle. Cedar Rapids has been grieving, but it is time to improve. Discussions are turning to discovering new pathways for recovery.

Kern explained that nearly 40 members out of a total of 110 Iowa Cultural Corridor Alliance members have been impacted by the disasters. There are more than 20 buildings in Cedar Rapids on the National Historic Register that have been affected. The whole Czech Village and New Bohemia Historic District is damaged. In Iowa City, it was primarily the campus that was damaged. Hancher Auditorium, Clapp Recital Hall, the Art Museum, and Riverside Outdoor Theatre were all impacted.

The Corridor was significantly impacted. Kern stated that Cedar Rapids has experienced a devastating loss of museums, arts and sciences programming, exhibits, and galleries. The National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library, African American Historical Museum and Cultural Center of Iowa, Museum of Art, Indian Creek Nature Center, Science Station, Legion Arts Gallery, Ushers Ferry and Seminole Valley were all significantly damaged. Only Brucemore, History Center, and the Grant Wood Studio remain unaffected.

Kern further explained that the second significant impact is the loss of performance facilities and programs. Kern stated that not many people had noted the damage to the Paramount or discussed its future. The good news about the Cedar Rapids Theatre is that it was in the middle of a capital campaign. Some of that money will go into rebuilding, but some parts not covered by the campaign will not be covered by the funds raised. The Legion Arts facilities were not significantly damaged, but experienced two robberies on consecutive Thursdays. Memorial Vets Coliseum is not damaged, but it remains inaccessible. There has been a direct effect on 10 performance arts organizations in the Corridor.

Kern stated that some good news is that many schools and colleges have been very agreeable to opening up their space. However, once school begins in just a month, this space will not be available. The Englert in Iowa City is now booked throughout the month.

Kern turned discussions to historic structures. Many historic structures in the Cedar Rapids area had been impacted. The Czech Village and New Bohemia are the primary locations for National Register listed buildings. New Bohemia had a plan for development as an arts district that included home and studio spaces for artists. The anchor buildings were National Register listed and National Register-eligible buildings were included in the development. Other commercial, city-owned, and nonprofit buildings downtown that were affected include Mays Island, Paramount Theatre, Louis Sullivan-designed Wells Fargo Building, Iowa Theatre Building, Guaranty Bank, Merchants National Bank, and the Roosevelt Hotel.

Kern estimated that the financial impact of the disasters would total more than \$100 million. All arts organizations project a loss of revenue from dislocation; modified programming; inconvenient or inappropriate performance facilities or exhibition space; inflation causing loss of discretionary income; and increased competition for private, corporate, and government funding. Kern stated that not all organizations and institutions would survive, but that it was his hope that the Task Force would come up with innovative practices to ensure that most survive.

*Best Practices: 1993 Flood and 2005 Iowa City Tornado – Gordon Hendrickson, State Historical Society of Iowa*

Hendrickson began by stating that one of the benefits as the floods started to hit is that many employees of the Department of Cultural Affairs looked back at 1993 and what was effective and what was not. The Department learned that they could make a difference and save resources and records. Hendrickson stated that to be effective, one has to act fast.

Hendrickson first spoke to the Task Force on lessons learned in 1993. The Department began gathering information, what can DCA provide as technical assistance? The Department compiled packets and mailed out packets. The Department also needed on-the-ground assistance. The Department found federal funds for a team that included many different areas and put them on the road about a month after the floods occurred in 1993. The Department found new mold, new colors, and new strains. Hendrickson stated that in many cases DCA was too late to save many items.

Hendrickson then moved to speak about this year's actions by the Department. This year, DCA put people on the ground immediately. The Department used electronic technologies and started early. Hendrickson asserted that the planning for response – the process of planning – was more important than having a plan. Hendrickson stated that the Task Force must make sure institutions have disaster preparedness plans. Institutions don't have time to sit around when the disaster hits and ask, "What should we do first?"

Hendrickson explained in disaster preparedness, institutions have a 48-hour window with records. Records must be frozen, freeze-dried, and then cleaned and preserved. Records come back exactly as they go to the freeze-drier. The analysis and impacts on cultural buildings is very different from records. Preservationists also found that they cannot operate too fast with buildings. They know they have to wait somewhat with buildings to let them dry a little.

Hendrickson stated that the rebuilding process is a long process. The demand for technical assistance is high. The Department is providing technical assistance readily this year. The Department is planning for at least a 10-year rebuild.

Hendrickson then spoke of the Iowa City tornado. The Department was fortunate that it happened during the legislative session. A large appropriation allowed for a quick rebuild. The Department also knew there were things that needed to be done. Hendrickson explained that the Historic Development Resource Grant has a county cap; only two grants can be awarded per county. The Task Force needs to look closely at legislative impacts and how best to deal with response. The Department knew that a one-year appropriation was not sufficient. Some people are just trying to get on their feet in a year. Hendrickson stated that the Task Force had some hard decisions to make, but that the Task Force had the necessary knowledge and experience to make recommendations with confidence. Hendrickson thanked the Task Force for his opportunity to speak.

*Response and Resources for Historic Properties – Barbara Mitchell, State Historical Society of Iowa*

Mitchell explained her position as Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer for the State of Iowa. Mitchell first reviewed the role of the State Historic Preservation Office or “SHPO.” The SHPO lives in the Department of Cultural Affairs. The Office has a number of charges, including inventorying historic properties and nominating properties to the National Register of Historic Places. The SHPO also provides technical assistance to Iowans regarding historic places. The Office administers state and federal tax programs for historic properties. SHPO is also involved in the review of federal money coming into the state related to historic property. The Office reviews the effect on historic properties of federal funding from DOT, FEMA, etc.

Mitchell discussed available damage reports. On the federal level, the Office is looking at May and June. On the state level, flooding started in April and even March. People are forgetting tornado damage. Historic cemeteries have been damaged, including the New Hartford cemetery that took a direct hit. Historic bridges in Eastern Iowa – the Charles City pedestrian bridge cannot be salvaged. The Sutliff Bridge – one of three spans was affected. National historic landmarks that were affected include the Amana Colonies. The Amana Mill Race had just been restored from 1993. The George M. Verity boat had water over its deck.

Commercial properties and residential properties have damage from flooding and sewage back-ups. Some properties damaged include the Frank Lloyd Wright Alvin Miller House in Charles City, William Green House in Rochester, and Horn House near Decorah, to name a few. Archeological areas have also been damaged. The SHPO does not have a good sense of that damage, but is working with the Office of the State Archaeologist to identify affected sites and to assess damage.

The Office’s response thus far has included putting people on the ground to conduct field visits throughout affected areas, working with FEMA and HSEMD to streamline the federal review process, and working with state preservation partners to document damage. The Office recently provided a workshop for property owners in Cedar Rapids in conjunction with the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Resources currently available:

- Federal Historic Tax Credits (20% of qualified rehab costs) for income-producing properties only

- State Historic Tax Credits (25% of qualified rehab costs) for commercial, residential, and rural properties. No more credits are reserved this year due to the cap on the program and high number of July 1 applications.
- Historic Sites Preservation Grants (HSPG) grant applications are due mid-September. An emergency program has been proposed.
- Historic Resource Development Program (HRDP). No emergency funds are available through this program. Historic property portion allocated for State Fiscal Year 2009. Applications for SFY2010 are due next spring.

Mitchell explained that there will most likely be no funding available for the state tax program.

Mitchell discussed relevant federal and state legislation currently pending that may have an effect on damage response in Iowa. Supplemental legislation was signed in late June. No funds were directed towards historical properties, but some may be used for historic properties. The Federal Rehabilitation Tax Credit was introduced in the House and Senate and increases tax credits from 20% to 26% of rehabilitation costs. This legislation also allows for a credit of 13% for houses built before 1936. Other proposed legislation includes \$35 million for historic properties in all affected Midwestern states through the Historic Preservation Fund for preservation grants. Three million dollars would be directed to the affected SHPOs. That legislation has now been indefinitely postponed.

Mitchell turned focus to state legislation. The state rehabilitation tax credit is a well-used program because of caps. Mitchell explained that it would really benefit recovery if the Task Force were to recommend removing the county caps. Currently only two awards can be given per county. Other state legislation is related to the HRDP program, setting up a fund that would go directly to affected areas.

Mitchell detailed her wish list. It included an additional appropriation for SHPO office for more staffing.

#### *Response and Resources for Arts Organizations – Mary Sundet Jones, Iowa Arts Council*

Sundet Jones explained grant programs available with the Iowa Arts Council. When the disasters occurred, the Council was near the end its fiscal year. The Council was given an extension, and was able to issue an emergency arts relief grant application. The Iowa Arts Council has already made 26 grants of \$500 each to artists and arts organizations affected by the storms to assist with immediate recovery and clean-up costs. The Council anticipates being able to make an additional 30 emergency recovery grants very soon, thanks to additional funds from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Sundet Jones announced that the National Endowment for the Arts has informally approved an additional \$80,000 to support professional artists, arts organizations, and arts projects that incur new costs as a direct result of damages or displacement due to Iowa's floods and tornados this year. The Council expects to distribute these funds as grants and stipends of approximately \$3,000 to \$6,000 each.

Severe weather played havoc with the organizational systems of numerous Iowa artists and organizations. For those that had received IAC grants for activities that have had to be delayed or moved, the Council has worked with grantees to ensure that such changes do not put their grants in jeopardy. The final report deadline for grants made in FY08, generally July 30 for all grantees, is being extended for any affected grantees. The Council has also responded to at

least one request for documentation of our grant-making history to an organization whose financial records were completely lost.

Sundet Jones described a grant program made available by an Iowa artist living abroad. An anonymous Iowa artist who has been working overseas for several years was moved to contribute \$5,000. She asked these funds to be distributed as five \$1,000 grants to affected Iowa artists. She subsequently learned that her own studio storage space in Iowa had been flooded and most of its contents destroyed. Still, she wanted to support other artists in Iowa with this gift. Her words, in part: "I am making this donation to offer encouragement to artists to continue with their work. Many artists in Iowa have experienced devastating loss. You add grace and class to our environment, a sense of wonder and place, and when something as horrible as the recent flood strikes, the entire community, in fact our entire state, feels the loss of its artistic essence. You are vital to us and are deeply appreciated!"

Sundet Jones stated that she echoed the artist's impassioned words and stated that she was thankful for the work the Task Force is undertaking today.

*Response and Resources for Museums and Historic Sites – Jerome Thompson, State Historical Society of Iowa*

Thompson explained his role as the State Curator with the State Historical Society. Thompson explained that one of the Historical Society's sites is closed because there is no access. These employees are not being paid for this time.

Within about 36 hours, the Historical Society started to provide resource information online. That included how to respond and information for first responders related to records and preservation. The Society's records people were on the ground to deal with collections at museums in the effected areas. The Society then compiled who first needs help, the damage, and what assistance they needed.

The State Historical Society paper conservator in Iowa City provided assistance to colleagues at the Czech Museum and the African American Museum in Cedar Rapids. There was a coordinated information and resource gathering effort with the Iowa Museum Association. I even provided a van load of recovery supplies to Cedar Rapids for distribution to area museums.

The Minnesota Historical Society Conservator went to Cedar Rapids on June 22 as the first contingent of the American Institute of Conservation CERT Team. He was unable to obtain access to certain sites, but went to Burlington and Fort Madison to provide assistance there.

AIC assistance is still available by request. They have funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to provide professional assistance at no charge to affected institutions. Also, Humanities Iowa provided \$30,000 in emergency relief to seven museums in Cedar Rapids, Cedar Falls, and Fort Madison. On June 23, the National Endowment for the Humanities Chair made a discretionary grant of \$1,000,000 for \$20,000 emergency grants.

Thompson encouraged the Task Force to look at cultural institutions developing disaster protection, response, and recovery plans and coordinating those plans with county emergency management officials and plans.

*Dennis Harper – HSEMD Public Assistance*

Harper discussed public assistance available through Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division. It is the largest of the federal assistance projects. Harper stated that he previously spent 15 years developing the state's hazard mitigation plan. Those plans focus on preventing damages from disasters. As the Task Force turns the corner looking forward, planning is critical and planning for future events is especially important. This should include cultural organizations and institutions.

The Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) allows states to bring in other staff from other states to help us here. These agreements are very important and may be something the Task Force looks at as discussions progress.

Harper described the public assistance program. The incident period started May 25 and has not officially closed yet. Damages in this time period are eligible for the Public Assistance (PA) program. Eighty-three counties are currently covered under PA. Harper explained that his staff are working directly in the field with the communities affected by the events. IA HSEMD has staff deployed across the state.

Public Assistance is a partnership between HSEMD and FEMA. FEMA brings technical assistance staff, and they will eventually leave town and go on to another event. Eventually the program turns over to the state. All money goes through the state. It is a 75% federal, 25% non-federal match. 15% of the non-federal match will be met by local entities. The current estimate of eligible damages in the state is \$798 million. Harper estimated that along with the Hazard Mitigation program, eligible damages may reach over \$1 billion. This is 6-7 times larger than 1993.

IA HSEMD now works very closely with their Cultural Affairs partners. Harper explained that this is a big change from 1993. Some of the federal undertakings will include cultural institutions. Harper stated that a big issue will be getting technical assistance to counties that need consultation for potential projects.

Harper further explained that when IA HSEMD is working with facilities, insurance always comes first. One of the biggest risk factors HSEMD looks at is the penalty for not having flood insurance if located in a floodplain. HSEMD takes \$500,000 on facilities and \$500,000 on contents off the top even before specific eligible damages are reviewed.

The 404 Hazard Mitigation Program is the voluntary acquisition of buildings in the floodplain. This is a program provided through communities. A long-term planning process looks at a number of issues, and could include a mixture of flood protection and rebuilding in the floodplain.

Harper stated that he believed that between 2,000 to 4,000 buildings would be removed from the floodplain either through a FEMA or HUD acquisition program.

#### *Charles Chaffins – FEMA Public Assistance*

Chaffins stated that FEMA is honored to help Iowans in their time of need and that FEMA is here for the long haul. Chaffins added that FEMA is supporting the tribal entities as sovereign nations.

Chaffins concluded by stating that whether in doubt, always apply for assistance both with FEMA and SBA because people could eventually become eligible.

### *Jim Woodard – FEMA Individual Assistance*

Woodard stated that he was in Iowa last year during the two events. Woodard expressed sadness with having to come back so soon after last year's events.

Woodard gave the Task Force a run down of the FEMA individual assistance program. Individual assistance is separate from Public Assistance. It is to aid and assist homeowners, renters, and individuals with their personal losses. Over 31,000 people have visited local Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs) since they were opened throughout the state. More importantly now, since the incident is still open, people can detail additional losses with FEMA at the DRCs.

Woodard asked the Task Force to carefully review the FEMA individual assistance sequence of delivery. The process begins immediately after the incident. Volunteer agencies come in to provide emergency assistance, such as the Red Cross and faith-based organizations. Home insurance is the next step; FEMA cannot duplicate insurance. Homeowners and renters should check with their insurance providers first before coming to FEMA. Then there is grant assistance and temporary assistance such as renter's assistance and direct housing assistance (mobile homes and park models). These extend up to 18 months. Financial assistance is usually awarded up to three months and then individuals must re-certify to be eligible for longer periods. Assistance is also available for repair and rebuilding. The maximum grant awarded is a total of \$28,800. This has always been meant as emergency assistance to continue after an event. Eligibility is determined regardless of insurance.

The Other Needs program is a state-administered program for things such as funeral, medical, dental, specialized tools (for occupations such as carpentry), and other categories. People may also receive an application package for an SBA loan. If this is not returned, there will be no other opportunities for grant assistance. Regardless of whether a person wants a loan immediately or not, the person should apply. One can turn it down but has to apply now.

### *Kevin Wynne – SBA Assistance*

Small Business Administration assistance programs are not often awarded to government or nonprofits. Wynne told the Task Force that he would be available throughout the day if there are any questions. Wynne thanked the Task Force.

### **Issue Identification**

Golden introduced issue identification to the Task Force members. Golden commented that this will be a long-term process and the Task Force needs to focus on what Iowans need immediately and what The Task Force wants for the future. The ultimate perspective is one of long-term sustainability and ensuring that we rebuild safer, stronger, and smarter. Golden thanked the group for their participation and hard work.

Findley gave an overview of Executive Order 7 that has charged the Cultural Heritage and Record Retention Task Force with recommendations. These two groups were separated for discussion and the focus will be on Cultural Heritage this morning. Findley noted that all Task Force members have their own priorities, but today all members need to be thinking much larger. The perspective needs to be focused on the state of Iowa and ensuring the rebuilding and sustainability of Iowa's Cultural Heritage traditions and institutions. The Task Force must

start by making a list of issues. Findley opened the floor to the Task Force members. Findley asked members to identify the issues, both long and short term.

The group voiced concern that Cultural Heritage is not often represented as an issue of importance when looking at sustainability. The Task Force asked that staff include a statement of importance in the report that would reflect the importance of Cultural Heritage to the state and its short and long-term recovery.

Golden stated that this would be included in the report.

The Task Force identified insurance issues as being very important, including whether or not institutions should be allowed to build or operate in a floodplain, and the need for affordability to be a part of the discussion.

Collaboration was identified as a major issue. The group identified Culture, History, and Arts Teams (CHAT) as a possible existing network to build on. Task Force members felt that the expansion of CHAT to serve as a network to pool resources and communication with one another was a good idea. The Task Force recognized that CHAT may serve as one-stop regional centers for resources, a directory of assistance, emergency preparedness information, and resources on grant writing.

The Task Force identified the need to look into hazard mitigation, recovery planning, and preventing disasters in the future. One Task Force member noted that because of the hazard mitigation plans she put into action after 1993, her organization was in much better condition this year. The group also noted that there must be funding for any mandate of disaster planning.

The Task Force identified the need to reach out to people across the state. Again, CHAT was identified as a possible vehicle for this outreach. Task Force members noted that the CHAT was initially created to bring in experts to the regions.

The Task Force noted that basic data were still not available in order to make any clear damage assessments. The Task Force identified baseline data as a starting point to identifying additional issues. Members also noted that organizations would need time and money to undertake their own individual damage assessments. The Task Force identified the need for assessment funds to help with this effort. The Task Force noted that this process would likely take many years to fully detail all damages, so this would be a long-term issue.

The Task Force noted the need for alternative forms of communication. In the middle of a disaster email or listservs do not work. The Task Force also noted that some people don't have computer literacy or that electronic communication is not the ideal method of communication during disasters where power systems are down.

The Task Force strongly expressed the desire to lift the per-county caps on the historic tax credit. The Task Force recommended instituting emergency rules that would allow for the tax credit caps be lifted during disasters. The Task Force also expressed a desire to expand the Endow Iowa program.

The Task Force also identified the need to document personal accounts of the disaster and its impacts. The Task Force noted that people and institutions should be interviewed to effectively describe community impacts of the disasters.

**Broad Issues:**

- Assessment
- Coordination across systems, i.e, cultural institutions, federal government, municipal governments
- Funding (number one priority)
  - Immediate and future
  - Some of our institutions may get lost
- Planning
  - Recovery
  - Funding
  - Organizational capacity
  - Regional? Integrate with Emergency Management – CHAT?
- Ensuring sustainability of small and large institutions
  - Short and long-term for both
  - Historic artifacts exist in individuals' hands or small collections
- Communication
  - Interagency
  - Cross-systems
  - Internal
  - Networking
- Individual Artist Sustainability
  - Outreach
  - Ensuring survival
  - Thinking about their needs in this discussion
- Cultural, Historical Inventory
  - Resources need to be provided to large and small

Golden stated that cultural heritage needs to be brought into county and state emergency preparedness plans.

The Task Force also noted that Iowa has one of the five weakest statewide nonprofits to ensure historical preservation. A statewide partner such as the Iowa Historic Preservation Alliance needs to be bolstered or reworked. The Task Force noted that this statewide partner could help to fundraise for Iowa's cultural organizations and institutions.

**Immediate Needs**

- Artists and organizations need to get back to work or we will lose them.
  - Studios, spaces
  - Supplies
  - Operating expenses
    - The pot needs to be regenerative
- Coordinated communication
  - On applications
  - For resources
  - Funding
  - People don't know how or where to find help
- Same rules for artists apply to staff ; it is hard to recruit staff
- Lift caps on rehabilitation of historic structures
  - There are many buildings in Cedar Rapids ready to rehab, but the funds are not there.

- Tax credits are really the only funds available to commercial buildings. For a very small business they are not very effective.
- One of the reasons it is not effective is that people do not know how to get on the Register and do not know how to take advantage of that resource.
- Emergency rules
- Restoration of Cultural grants to pre-2000 levels of funding.
- For years the cultural community has been trying to prove its worth. This is the opportunity to make the case for the importance of cultural organizations in a community. Cedar Rapids has lost 75 to 80% of its cultural organizations. We need to make sure the legislature knows the impact of this.
- The Governor needs to advocate for Iowa's worth. The Gulf got \$45 million and we have to split \$35 million between more states.
- Caps can be changed, but the emergency rules need to be used.
- We need to create a subcommittee to recommend emergency rules.
- We need to look at convertible spaces. Some historical buildings can be convertible housing units for both nonresidents and residents.
- Small counties may be lost in changing the caps. We need to make sure that the funding is evenly distributed and it doesn't just go to Cedar Rapids.
- Fully funding RHGP.
- Finding people to do some of this rehab work.
- Some institutions do not have capacity or experience to go through this process effectively.
- We have no idea how our archaeological sites have been affected. And we don't know information about historical farmsteads, either. We don't have the staff power to do such inventorying.
- We need to increase funding into the Department of Cultural Affairs for the Cultural Leadership Program. It is statewide, and it goes to large cultural institutions identified as leaders. It could then act as a conduit of information and networking.
- Increase TAN funding – assistance for grantwriting. A network is in place and available.
- Funding has steadily decreased to the Department of Cultural Affairs and things cost more. We not only need to allow more than two grants per county, but also more money needs to go to these grants. This is part of economic development. We are artists, but we are not thought of as businesses. We add value to economies, and we need to document this.

## **Recommendations**

### ***Funding***

- One of the best suggestions from Miami-Dade County after Hurricane Andrew was that the legislature dedicated tax revenues to recovery of cultural institutions. Dedicating revenues from rebuilding to the rebuilding of cultural institutions.
- Revenues increase as people rebuild.
- Fully fund RHDP.
- Modify county caps.
- Take the tax credits that are unused by June 30 and put those towards the backlog in the historic pool.
- Expand the "Great Places" program.
- Lift the cap on Endow Iowa.
- Put in place a cooperative funding program between Cultural Heritage and Emergency Management – creating an intrastate EMAC system.

- Short-term staffing needs filling.
- Support from private sector for nonprofit needs, for instance, a grant consultant for a year
- Tweak CHAT; use this network for funding distribution, networking, technical assistance, other options.
- GIS mapping of Iowa is needed.
- Funding for assessment.
- Embrace Iowa funds earmarked for cultural institutions.
- Explore options for operational funding allowances.

### ***Insurance***

- Researching vehicles to make insurance accessible to nonprofits in the floodplain and ensuring its affordability.

### ***Assessment***

Is this necessary short-term? Or are there other priorities that should come first?

- WPA expansion
- “Do no harm” policy; incentives to cultural institutions that get evaluated for cultural importance.

### ***Communication***

- Outreach to rural areas. Get people out there. CHAT expansion.
- Better communication of disaster situation.
- Alternatives to electronic, online communication.

### ***Long-term mitigation***

- Helping encourage partnerships.
- Moving records out of floodplain.
- Supplies collected for cultural institutions.
- Preparations must be made for next flood.
- Mitigation planning as requirement of flood recovery funding, with support and technical assistance to complete plans.
- Green building.

## **Process for Completing 45-Day Report**

Findley explained that notes would be available to the Task Force within the next week. Then Task Force staff will work to complete the 45-Day report to the Advisory Commission by August 18. This will also be shared with the Task Force for comment prior to finalization.

## **Closing Comments and Adjourn**

Golden asked the Task Force to approve the recommendations verbally to ensure consensus has been reached. Golden stated that she wanted to ensure that all members' voices were heard. The Task Force staff will work diligently to provide the Task Force with draft recommendations in a timely fashion. Staff will allow for a two day turnaround so that all Task Force members will have a chance to voice any concerns regarding the draft recommendations before they are presented to the Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission.

Golden explained that the Task Force will be responding only to content issues, not word-smithing. The recommendations will not change from what the Task Force had discussed today. The Task Force staff are very concerned with bringing members' ideas and recommendations to the Governor. Golden noted that she recognized the need to communicate the need of Iowa's Cultural organizations and artists to the entire state. The Task Force staff will work on a statement that will accompany the recommendations that clearly emphasizes the importance of cultural heritage to the greater work of rebuilding Iowa. Golden asked the Task Force to give themselves a hand for their hard work and valuable discussion. The Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission appreciates the work of all Task Forces.

Golden moved to schedule a second meeting of the Task Force in September to look specifically at long-term recovery issues. With all in favor, Golden confirmed that the Task Force would meet again in September. The Task Force was adjourned.



## Rebuild Iowa Task Force Records Retention Meeting Summary

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**July 30, 2008 — 1:30 pm to 6:00 pm**  
**West Des Moines Learning Resource Center**  
**Community Room, Front Half**  
**3550 George Mills Civic Parkway, West Des Moines, Iowa**

### **Task Force Members Present:**

Karris Golden, Task Force Chair, Waterloo  
Melissa Bird, Keokuk County Recorder, Sigourney  
Carmine Boal, Iowa General Assembly, Ankeny  
Nancy Boettger, Iowa General Assembly, Harlan  
Michael Dargan, Waterloo Public Library, Waterloo  
Bernardo Granwehr, Iowa State Auditor's Office, Des Moines  
Gordon Hendrickson, State Historical Society of Iowa, Clive  
Wally Horn, Iowa General Assembly, Cedar Rapids  
Marian Karr, City of Iowa City, Iowa City  
Nancy Kraft, University of Iowa Libraries, Iowa City  
David McCartney, University of Iowa Libraries, Iowa City  
Helen Miller, Iowa General Assembly, Fort Dodge  
Cyndi Pederson, Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs, Des Moines  
Diane Rauh, City of Des Moines, Des Moines  
Hilary Seo, Iowa State University – Parks Library, Ames  
Lorna Truck, Library Consultant, West Des Moines  
Mary Wegner, State Library of Iowa, Des Moines  
Tanya Zanish-Belcher, Iowa State University – Parks Library, Ames

### **Resource Group Members Present:**

Vicki Walch, Council of State Archivists, Iowa City

### **Presenters:**

Charles Chaffins, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)  
Dennis Harper, Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division (HSEMD)  
Devin Wynne, Small Business Administration (SBA)  
Note: Other presenters are part of the Task Force or Resource Group

### **Observers:**

Noreen Bush, Iowa House Republican Caucus, Des Moines  
Jennifer Jacobs, Des Moines Register, Des Moines  
Carolann Jensen, Senate Republican Staff, Des Moines  
Richard Nelson, Legislative Services Agency, Des Moines  
Jennifer Parsons, Iowa House Democratic Caucus, Des Moines  
Tom Shepherd, Department of Administrative Services, Des Moines  
Julie Simon, Iowa Senate Democratic Caucus, Des Moines

Douglas Wulf, Legislative Services Agency, Des Moines

**Staff Present:**

Aaron Todd, Department of Cultural Affairs, RIO Task Force Manager

Ben Banowitz, SPPG

Brooke Findley, SPPG

Michelle Rich, SPPG

**Welcome and Introductions**

Chair of the Cultural Heritage and Records Retention Task Force Karris Golden convened the Task Force and noted that the focus in the morning would be solely on Cultural Heritage and the afternoon will focus on records retention. Golden reminded the group that the recommendations are due to the Rebuild Iowa Advisory Commission by August 18 in the form of a comprehensive report and the Commission will, in turn, present its recommendations to the Governor in the form of a 45-Day Report.

**Charge to the Task Force and Overview of the Day**

Golden thanked the group for their willingness to help and made mention of those that had less than 24 hours notice of needing to attend. Golden reiterated charge of the Task Force and noted that her role is to listen and learn and communicate needs of the group to the larger Commission body and to advocate for the group.

Golden informed the group that they were one of nine Task Forces that are taking place over the next several weeks. Golden noted that there would be informative presentations early and then a facilitated discussion would be held later to develop preliminary recommendations. Golden then turned the floor over to Brooke Findley of State Public Policy Group for an overview of the agenda and planning for the day's discussion.

Findley thanked the group for attending and commented that broad input is essential to developing the report to the Governor. Findley stated that the first part of the meeting would include presentations to provide basic information that will serve as a foundation for a facilitated discussion later in the day to prioritize issues and to make preliminary recommendations. The focus of the day would be about what the State of Iowa can do in both the short and long term while some issues may need further exploration. Findley turned the floor back to Golden to introduce the presenters and the format for questions.

**Presentation of Information**

*Overview of Incident and Damage Assessment – Gordon Hendrickson, State of Iowa Historical Society of Iowa and State Archivist, Department of Cultural Affairs*

Hendrickson commented that the impact of flooding and disasters on state resources is hard to get a handle on. Eighty-three counties out of 99 have been declared disaster areas. The Department of Cultural Affairs drew on 1993 flood experience to provide the best assistance possible to local officials. Gordon stated that there are no state-level mandates regarding records retention at the local level. Iowa and Arkansas are the only two states that do not have state authority over local records. Iowa has voluntary reporting.

Gordon explained the effort to duplicate some records of genealogical importance and noted that many county records are stored in basements. A number of courthouses had damage in their basements which led to damage to their records. The Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) had conservators on the ground providing immediate technical assistance. Freezing is the appropriate first step to take. The DCA can only go when their assistance is requested.

The DCA does not have damage estimates on the damage to records statewide and does not have the authority to gather that information. The DCA relies on voluntary reporting.

There is a short window of opportunity to save records, with the first 48 hours being critical to the ability to save damaged documents.

The State Archives are planned not to be destroyed for the next 500 years. State archives are housed at the State Historical Building and in another facility in Iowa City. The State Historical Building was not damaged though staff worked 24 hours per day in case of loss of power. Power loss, a water pipe breaking, or an internal threat is a greater threat than flooding. Preparations for disaster are as important as the disaster response itself. Plans need to be in place to implement immediately.

There are 345 public libraries in Iowa, 80 higher educational libraries, 390 school districts, and various other institutions. All hold records.

*Topics of Concern: Local Government Records – Marian Karr, City Clerk, Iowa City*

Records retention falls into these categories: State code requirements, internal city knowledge, and quick response to public information requests. With the flooding, residents are searching records more often than before. There is a responsibility to have these records for the public that need the information

Each city and county has a legal duty to preserve information in pending litigation. Hendrickson reiterated that standards from the state would help clarify how long records should be kept and also to have legislative clarification of what “city records” are versus city council language.

Group members stated that they were lucky to have four requests for information in a month while some have four a week. The range of duties for clerks across the state varies depending on the size and resources of the community.

A concern of the group was the increased difficulty in finding reader printers and the cost of them when they are available. There was a discussion about Microfilm as the preferred method for longevity, though some saw a need to look to other methods.

Group members expressed hesitation to opening up the Code to change language and the tradeoffs. All agreed that unfunded mandates are not a desirable course.

*Topics of Concern: Libraries and Archives – Tanya Zanish-Belcher, Iowa State University, Parks Library, Ames and Mary Wegner, State Librarian, Des Moines*

Wegner outlined the status of libraries and the lack of structure to assist local libraries statewide. She noted that, like records retention, there is no structure to provide assistance to local libraries and there is also a lack of coordination of groups. There are many archival groups

in the state, but there is no communication structure for statewide assistance. Some of the groups include:

- Consortium of Iowa Archivists
- Iowa-ACRL Chapter
- Iowa Conservation and Preservation Consortium (ICPC)
- Iowa Historic Preservation Alliance
- Iowa Historical Records Advisory Board (IHRAB)
- Iowa Library Association
- Iowa Museums Association
- Regents' Institutions
- Special Libraries Association-Iowa Chapter
- Technical Assistance Advisory Network (SHSI)

There is a lack of overall coordination of grant writing and grant writing technical assistance among libraries and nonprofits. Many of the grants that nonprofits will write for and potentially receive are too small to cover the level of damage. There is a need to provide technical assistance for people who are not used to writing grants.

The group indicated it is important to have an assessment to identify and prioritize the damage.

There are multiple format needs for records retention including books, archival material, ephemera, CD, and electronic formats.

The group felt it was important to develop of communication structures and disaster planning on a statewide level, including collecting and distributing information on available resources, and the mobilization of available resources at the immediate need.

Zanish-Belcher indicated that libraries have suffered significant damage to buildings and collections. There are also issues about covering temporary facilities and operating costs for libraries. Prior to the flooding, the Cedar Rapids library was checking out 300,000 materials a day. During the flood about 32,000 were checked. There are also issues related to the art and music libraries in Iowa City along the river. Zanish-Belcher indicated that the damage was a significant blow to the community and some of the businesses may not return.

*Public Assistance – Dennis Harper, Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management, Des Moines*

Harper shifted the discussion to partnerships in grant management and noted that many partners are city clerks. The public assistance program is a program designed to aid private nonprofits and local and city governments to recover from disasters. This disaster event period continues from its beginning on May 25. Counties may be added as the situation unfolds and could include all 99 counties declared.

Public assistance is a partnership between HSEMD and FEMA. FEMA provides technical assistance staff who will eventually move on to another event. All of the funds go through the state, and eventually the program turns over to the state. The federal funds require a 25% non-federal match. 15% of the non-federal match will be met by local entities. The current estimate of eligible damages in the state is \$798 million. Along with the Hazard Mitigation program, eligible damages may reach over \$1 billion. This is six to seven times larger than 1993.

When working with facilities, insurance benefits always take precedence over federal programs. One of the risk factors considered is the penalty for not having flood insurance if located in a floodplain. \$500,000 on facilities and \$500,000 contents are taken off the top of any program benefits even before specific eligible damages are looked at.

The 404 Hazard Mitigation Program is the voluntary acquisition of buildings in a floodplain. The program provided through communities and run at the local level. Long-term planning looks at a number of issues, and could include a mixture of flood protection and rebuilding in the floodplain.

Harper indicated that between 2,000 to 4,000 buildings could be removed from the floodplain.

#### *FEMA Public Assistance – Charles Chaffins*

The FEMA representative noted that FEMA is available to support Iowans in the recovery process and focused on Individual Assistance. The incident period remains open to start claims with FEMA. Chaffins encouraged those affected to visit Disaster Recovery Centers set up in certain regions to meet with state and federal staff that can connect them with resources.

Housing assistance is offered as either temporary housing assistance and/or direct housing assistance (mobile homes or park models). When individuals register with FEMA, they will also receive a SBA loan application packet which was also recommended to be completed by individuals, regardless of whether or not they are looking for a loan. Discarding the application can hurt individuals' chances of receiving support.

The total number of registrations is over 34,000 to date and total funds approved are \$114 million to date. Employment assistance is available through the state, though the Disaster Employment Assistance program runs out August 12 and the Individual assistance cut-off is August 29. The housing hotline number is 866-274-4392.

#### *SBA Assistance – Kevin Wynne*

The SBA assistance program offers home loans and business loans. Cut-off for filing is September 12. Economic injury disaster loans are provided to entities that do not suffer physical damage, but are in need of operational assistance. Repayment ability is a main consideration. The SBA also offers relocation and refinance assistance. The Economic Injury program loans up to \$2 million.

#### *Best Practices – Gordon Hendrickson, State of Iowa Historical Society of Iowa and State Archivist, Department of Cultural Affairs and Vicki Walch Council of State Archivists, Iowa City*

Hendrickson indicated that he did not believe that the state is at the stage of indicating how they can save the records that are already damaged. The key to effective disaster preparedness is an effective records management program. Hendrickson commented that there is a need to have plans in place to be able to respond to a disaster. There were resources available to provide guidance in 2003 to create the updated Municipal Records Manual. Each city is independent and responsible for creating its plan.

Hendrickson indicated large communities have the resources within a city clerk office to plan. There may be a need to offer training and technical assistance to small communities so they can create a plan.

Hendrickson noted that the Records Management System does not set schedules for the lifetimes of documents. Hendrickson commented that he would like to see a schedule and a means to communicate a schedule statewide. In a disaster, all records need to be saved. A good records management system will assist in that. There is a need for money, support, trainers, preparedness and records training for public and nonprofit records professionals.

A grant has been secured in the past to train county officials though, with no mandate there is no way to update the training. Hendrickson commented that records are essential to ensure continuity of government – birth, marriage, and death, among others.

Hendrickson indicated that it would be ideal to be able to freeze and freeze-dry documents. He sees a need to prioritize documents and collections and to also look at the duplication of records and where they are stored.

Walch discussed the Intergovernmental Preparedness for Essential Records (IPER). Hurricane Katrina and its effect on our organization was the impetus to identify and create the IPER to take to members of Congress and Iowa General Assembly for advocacy.

Relationships are important during an incident and meeting with an emergency manager before an emergency is important to explain the complexities of records management. Availability of resources is important for an emergency response. Walch commented that state archivists have known for years that local governments are underfunded and under-recognized in their responsibility for records management. Thirty-two states have state-level training projects for local governments. The group commented that, in terms of authority, Iowa is one of two states with very little authority or resources in regards to records management. Walch commented that some states have document filing fees to fund records management. Iowa currently charges a one-dollar filing fee that funds local recorders.

The group suggested that an emergency response framework for cultural institutions is being created by the Institute for Library and Museum Services and should be completed next year.

Discussion shifted to the Preserving American Historic Records Act (PAHR) in Congress. The group indicated this funding would go to local governments and could be used to help with emergency planning.

There was discussion related to individual preparedness and the records people need when evacuating during a disaster. The group also indicated a need to identify which records to have available after a disaster. Hendrickson stated that there are resources available online or through our institutions to guide people. The issue is getting the information out.

Q: So in the Iowa Code, there is no mandate as to records you must keep or how you should keep them?

A: No. That is the short answer.

Q: So local entities are able to make that determination themselves?

A: Yes. What I know is that codes only tell which items to keep permanently, which to keep for 10 years and the rest keep for a certain amount of time. But that is about the only guidelines that exist.

The group indicated that administrative rules may be a best practice to use when looking at rules to consider. HIPAA security rules state that hospitals and clinics must have access to all medical records in a disaster. The group felt that hospitals may be a best practice to consider..

## Issue Identification

Findley started the discussion to identify issues in records retention by asking about local control. Group members noted that guidance is nice, but unfunded mandates are not appreciated. Some suggested that electronic storage can often be more expensive than paper, and that there are administrative costs associated with records management.

The group asked if the bigger question was whether or not local entities will want to sustain local autonomy. Some see inconsistent systems among the three Regents Institutions. Others stated that there is a retention manual that is used as a guideline that has been modified through the years.

Issues that were identified include:

- Electronic records guidelines.
- Updated state guidelines as manual.
- Recognition of conflicts in state code – continuity of state code. I think this is an opportunity to look at how we do things and update that process.
- Funds for local clerks to undertake efforts.
- Technical assistance needed in operating areas.
- Training opportunities associated with IPER (electronic).
- Communication.
- Advocacy .
- Incentives for local improvements of records retention.

The group felt that the \$1 charge did not amount to much when in a small county, and there needs to be an adequate distribution of funds from the \$1 per record charge.

The group felt that there is a need for immediate and long-term technical assistance in addition to on-the-ground emergency response teams that can move records effectively and help. The group would like to see inter-state movement of expertise and intra-state support, as well.

Immediate recovery needs:

- Data collection on volume and type of records damaged currently.
- Extent of damage and format also need to be considered.
- Electronic records will need to be recovered.
- Freeze dried records will require cleaning.

Areas still in danger of disasters:

- Process for storing back-ups.
- Centralized storage mechanism housed with state – all formats .
- Electronic must be in two locations.

Communication between institutions:

- Coordination for grant funding.
  - Technical assistance.
  - Coordination of applications.

- Preserving the American Historic Records Act.

The group felt that records are a civil rights issue and should be a higher priority than it has historically been. Members of the group noted that the State Auditor's Office is exploring electronic records. The group liked the idea of a electronic 48-hour mandate due to a cost reduction in electronic memory and electronic storage. The group indicated that they would like to see essential records preserved over the next decade.

The group noted that it is important to know when and what to destroy when dealing with electronic records. Using paper records guidelines in an electronic records world is important, including the use of back-ups and duplicates. The group felt that CD storage would not survive 500 years.

The University of Wisconsin recently adopted a statewide electronic systems mandate for their Regents Institutions that the group felt may be a model to explore.

Findley shifted the discussion to physical storage. The group noted that more information is required to be stored, and rental space for safe storage is increasingly expensive. Members of the group felt that the recent emergencies have created a teachable moment to disseminate information to people and institutions about preserving their records. The group felt it was important to create public service announcements and other forms of communication to stress the importance of record retention and preservation. Local libraries, local community access channels, the Red Cross, and ISU extension were identified as possible outlets for information.

There was discussion around the creation of preservation workshops statewide that would include local records officials and focus on disaster preparedness training. The group felt it was important to have a continuing timeline of the trainings and could even be part of a summit sponsored by the Governor's office focusing on emergency preparedness. The group felt that records need to be put in the state emergency response plan as state asset in addition to being included in county response plans.

The group felt there was an immediate need for temporary space for libraries. Members of the group indicated that the Cedar Rapids Public Library needs to be open for their constituents and a plan for continuity of operations is vital for future emergencies.

Members of the group felt that liability issues related to disaster scenes was a issue to focus on. The ability to release people to aid institutions to go into disaster zones is needed during a crisis for record preservation.

An emergency pool of funds readily available for records management emergency response grants was also brought up by the group as a potential recommendation.

Findley moved the discussion to long-term issues. The group indicated that the state has three paper conservation labs that they would like to see ramped-up to use as a resource during a disaster. The group would also like to see a list of resources that is disseminated and documented for future disasters so organizations know where to go in a time of need.

The group felt that the creation of a communication plan to explore creative networks to disseminate information through analog means would be something to explore.

Members felt the State may have some role in helping to bring back businesses affected by the disasters.

Group members felt that additional staff resources through the Department of Cultural Affairs for administration and recovery would likely be needed in the next few years to help with current and future disasters.

The group discussed ways to keep cultural workers that are currently not working due to the floods. Discussion ranged from an employment network to short-term work agreements with other cultural attractions.

## Recommendations

### Short-term

- Emergency Preparedness Summit
  - Training could be included
- Push federal legislation: Preserving the American Historical Record Act
  - Legislative resolution in Iowa in support of the Act
- Secure resources for continuity of operations of libraries and other cultural institutions
  - Transitional facility and storage space for collections and institutions
  - Staffing needs – employee sharing (through IWD)
  - State emergency grant or other mechanism - Funding for conservation labs, ensuring for long-term preservation of records, documents and other collections – goes into mid-term to long-term recovery
- Emergency response
  - Formation of crisis response teams similar to the EMAC to focus at the local level
  - HSPD-12
  - Credentialing, liability, expert-sharing
    - Priorities: 24-hour phone number
    - Mission assignments
    - Liability
    - Chain of command and public information
    - CERT exploration – Integration into EMS
  - Employee displacement and sharing through Iowa Workforce Development
- Develop electronic management standards
- Legislative clarification on records definitions
- Moving State records location out of floodplain
- Training and Education
  - Local governments on records
  - Records, collections on emergency preparedness
  - Trainer within State Archives for training on best practices
- Utilizing the eGrant system to coordinate grant efforts
- Communicate the importance of vital records to the state
  - Public Service announcements
  - Local libraries
  - Local cable access channel

### Mid-term

- Implement electronic management facilities regionally
- Centralized storage facilities for regional entities – all formats

### Long-term

- Regional archivists on the ground for technical assistance and support
  - Build on AEA to expand archives or records management, or Community College Regions
  - Including central FTE to support regions in State Archive

### **Process for Completing 45-Day Report**

Findley explained that notes would be available to the Task Force within the next week. Then Task Force staff will work to complete the 45-Day report to the Advisory Commission by August 18. This will also be shared with the Task Force for comment.

### **Closing Comments and Adjourn**

Golden stated that resources can be linked online on the RIO website and asked that any resources be sent to Aaron Todd. Golden also commented that the Generation Iowa Commission may be able to help fund a marketing campaign though, that would be an economic development decision.

Golden thanked everyone for their attention and reiterated that everyone was working very hard to synthesize all this information and get it into a report. Staff will work to have the notes back to the group quickly and there would be two business days to provide any feedback on broad issues.

Golden thanked the presenters and members of the resource group for sharing information with the Task Force. She indicated that Commissioner Dardis told the Advisory Commission recently that he wrote his last check from 1993 not too long ago. The recovery will be a long-term process. Golden indicated that the positive perspectives and momentum generated during the meeting was appreciated.

Golden asked the Task Force if there was consensus on all issues identified and recommendations made. There was agreement on consensus approval.

Golden made a motion that a second meeting be planned for September to focus specifically on long-term issues. All were in favor of a second meeting and Golden indicated she would send out a confirmation later in August for a meeting dedicated to long-term planning.