

August 6, 2013

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### GOVERNMENTAL ACCOUNTING STANDARDS BOARD (GASB) CHANGES

**GASB Standards.** The GASB, an independent accounting board, has issued two new accounting standards that will affect the way pension obligations and pension expenses are reported for most public pension systems. Statement Number 67 applies to public pension plans and took effect July 1, 2013 (FY 2014). Statement Number 68 applies to employers who utilize Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) reporting. The effective date for employers' compliance is the fiscal year that begins after June 15, 2014. In Iowa, this will affect all Iowa Public Employees Retirement System (IPERS) - covered employers, 411 employers, and the State for the Peace Officers Retirement System (POR) and Judicial Retirement System.

**Pension Systems Impact.** Prior to this change, employers were only required to report pension liabilities on their financial statements if they did not pay the statutory rate. With the GASB changes, employers will be apportioned their percentage of the net pension liability and pension expense and this will now be reported on their GAAP financial statements. The IPERS has put together an informational webinar on the new changes, including how the net pension liability and pension expense will be calculated, and posted it to their website: <http://www.ipers.org/employers/reporting/training/gasb/index.htm>

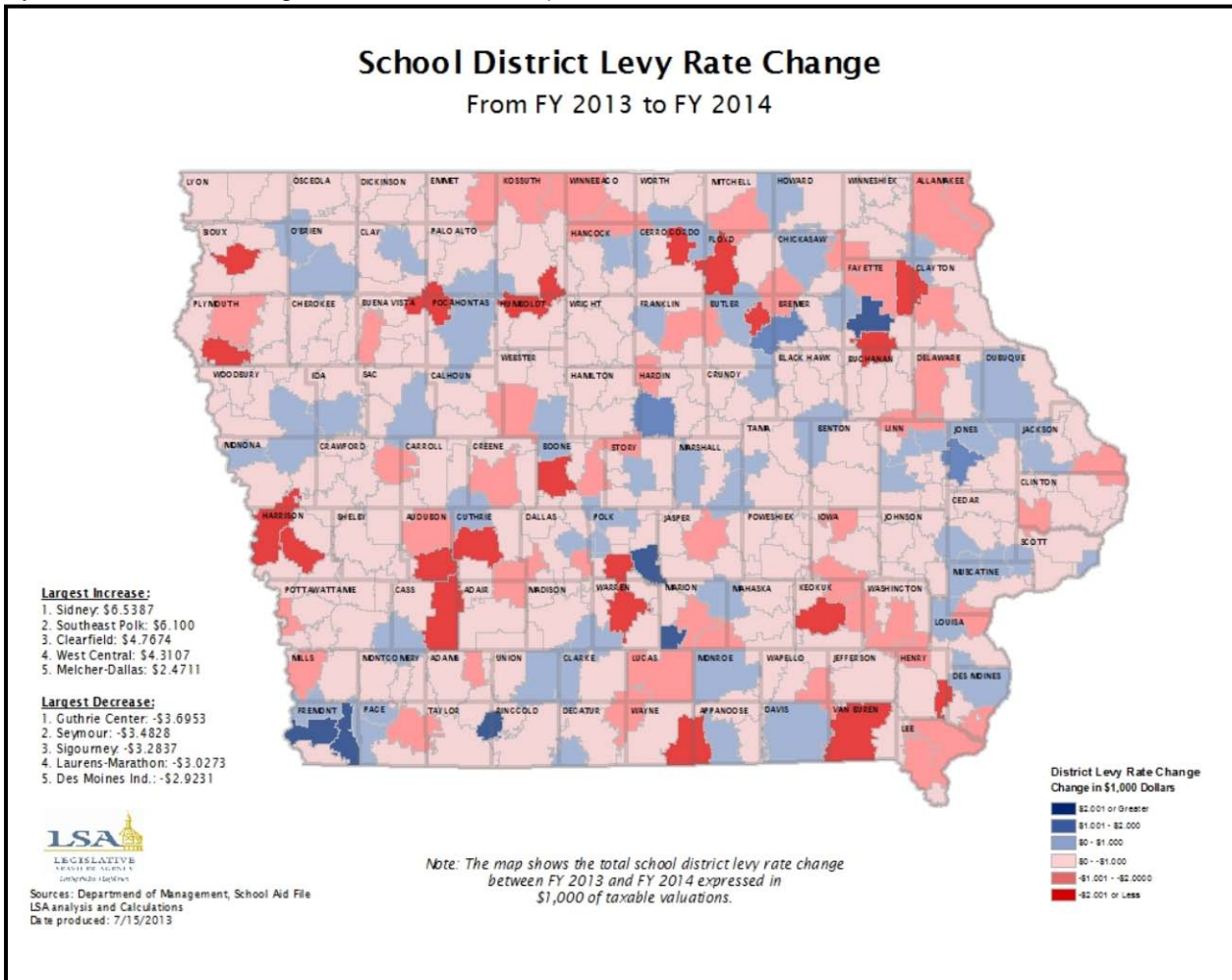
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### FY 2014 SCHOOL DISTRICT LEVY AMOUNTS AND RATES

**Certified Budgets.** The Department of Management certified FY 2014 school district budgets in June. Based on that information, tax rates for school districts were also finalized for the fiscal year.

**Levy Rate Changes.** In FY 2014, the statewide average total school district levy rate was \$14.6923 (levy rates expressed per \$1,000 of taxable valuations), that is a decrease of \$0.4140 from the FY 2013 average rate of \$15.1063. Of the 346 districts in FY 2014, 279 (80.6%) have a reduction in the rate, while 67 (19.4%) have an increase compared to FY 2013. The map on the following page provides detail on

the total school district levy rate change for each school district (red shading indicates a decrease in the levy rate and blue shading indicates an increase).



**Total Levy Rate.** The total school district levy rate consists of many components, including the levy to fund the combined district cost (which includes the uniform levy and the additional levy), the cash reserve levy, the instructional support levy, the management levy, the regular and voter-approved physical plant and equipment levy (PPEL), the debt levy, the educational improvement levy, Amana library levy, and the playground equipment and recreational levy (these last three are included in the other category in the following table).

**Components of the Levy Rate.** The total school district property tax amount increased \$31.5 million (1.5%) in FY 2014. Despite the increase in the levy amount, the statewide average total school levy rate decreased by \$-0.4139 (2.7%) compared to FY 2013. Levy rate reductions were offset by taxable valuation increases that averaged 4.0% statewide, resulting in the increase in the school district levy total. Of note:

- The uniform levy amount increased 4.1% in FY 2014 and was a direct result of the taxable valuation increase. The total additional levy decreased slightly while the additional levy rate decreased 4.2%.
- The FY 2014 cash reserve levy amount decreased by 17.9% and the cash reserve levy rate decreased by 21.0% when compared to FY 2013.
- Although the instructional support levy amount increased 9.8%, the levy rate decreased slightly (-1.0%) and was a result of the law change that requires the instructional support program funding amount for property taxes to be applied to all taxable valuations, including incremental values within an urban renewal area, when calculating the instructional support levy rate. Without this law change, the levy rate would have increased 5.6%.

- The debt levy increased 12.5% and the debt levy rate increased 8.3% in FY 2014.

|  | Levy Amounts (Dollars in Millions) |                   |                |             | Levy Rates (per \$1,000 of taxable valuations) |                   |                   |              |
|--|------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------|--|-------------------|-------------------|--------------|
|  | FY 2014                            | FY 2013           | Change         | % Change    | FY 2014  | FY 2013           | Change            | % Change     |
| Uniform Levy                               | \$ 759.3                           | \$ 729.7          | \$ 29.6        | 4.1%        | \$ 5.3901                                      | \$ 5.3855         | \$ 0.0046         | 0.1%         |
| Additional Levy                            | 578.6                              | 581.1             | -2.5           | -0.4%       | 4.1070   | 4.2883            | -0.1814           | -4.2%        |
| <b>Levy to Fund Combined District Cost</b> | <b>\$ 1,337.9</b>                  | <b>\$ 1,310.8</b> | <b>\$ 27.0</b> | <b>2.1%</b> | <b>\$ 9.4970</b>                               | <b>\$ 9.6738</b>  | <b>\$ -0.1768</b> | <b>-1.8%</b> |
| Cash Reserve Levy                          | \$ 190.1                           | \$ 231.5          | \$ -41.4       | -17.9%      | \$ 1.3494                                      | \$ 1.7085         | \$ -0.3591        | -21.0%       |
| Instructional Support Levy                 | 114.5                              | 104.2             | 10.2           | 9.8%        | 0.7612   | 0.7692            | -0.0080           | -1.0%        |
| Management Levy                            | 150.7                              | 139.9             | 10.8           | 7.7%        | 1.0700   | 1.0326            | 0.0374            | 3.6%         |
| Regular PPEL                               | 48.2                               | 45.6              | 2.5            | 5.6%        | 0.3203   | 0.3152            | 0.0051            | 1.6%         |
| Voter-Approved PPEL                        | 103.7                              | 97.9              | 5.7            | 5.9%        | 0.6895   | 0.6768            | 0.0127            | 1.9%         |
| Debt Levy                                  | 148.2                              | 131.6             | 16.5           | 12.5%       | 0.9852   | 0.9096            | 0.0756            | 8.3%         |
| Other                                      | 2.8                                | 2.8               | 0.0            | 0.0%        | 0.0198   | 0.0205            | -0.0008           | -3.8%        |
| <b>Total</b>                               | <b>\$ 2,095.9</b>                  | <b>\$ 2,064.5</b> | <b>\$ 31.5</b> | <b>1.5%</b> | <b>\$ 14.6923</b>                              | <b>\$ 15.1063</b> | <b>\$ -0.4139</b> | <b>-2.7%</b> |

**Property Tax Data.** School district property tax data is available on the [LSA website](#) or upon request.

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## DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE – 2010 TAX EXPENDITURE STUDY

**Study.** The Iowa Department of Revenue recently released an updated version of the [2010 Iowa Tax Expenditure Study](#) report released in March 2013. The study provides an analysis and estimate of tax exemptions, tax credits, tax deductions, and income tax exclusions that are specifically noted in the Iowa tax code. The estimates are based on calendar year 2010 data and include:

- Sales and use tax expenditures
- Tax credit tax expenditures
- Property tax expenditures

**Website.** Each of the specified studies is available on the [Department of Revenue's website](#).

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## CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION BUDGET IMPACT OF FEDERAL SEQUESTER

**FY 2013 Budget.** The Civil Rights Commission receives a General Fund appropriation of \$1.2 million. Additionally, the Commission contracts with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) to process and investigate cases. In FY 2013, the Commission earned \$672,900. The Commission has a similar agreement with Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and earned \$342,000 in FY 2013. Approximately 48.0% of budgeted receipts for the Commission are federal funds.

**Federal Funds.** The Commission was recently notified by the EEOC that the number of case closures it will be reimbursed for will be reduced by approximately 7.5%; that will result in a loss of approximately \$50,000 due to the federal sequestration. However, HUD recently notified the Commission of additional funding opportunities for partnership funds. Applications are due August 22, 2013, and there is a competitive bid process with other HUD partnership agencies. The Commission plans to submit proposals for training and outreach projects including collaborating with local agencies. The Commission has also reduced the amount it reimburses the Attorney General's Office because the Office has recently assigned a less expensive staff to the Commission. The Commission then negotiated a lower rate of reimbursement. The potential increase in HUD funds and decrease in reimbursements to the Office of the Attorney General may offset the reduced receipts from the EEOC.

**More Information.** Additional information is available from the LSA.

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## OPERATIONAL SHARING INCENTIVES GUIDANCE

**House File 472.** The Department of Education recently issued guidance on operational sharing functions incentives that were enacted in [HF 472 \(School District Sharing Incentives Act\)](#) during the 2013 Legislative Session. The Act allows school districts that share specific operational functions, upon approval from the Department of Education, to receive additional school aid funding based on a supplementary weighting for the approved shared operational functions. The provision is in place for FY 2015 through FY 2020.

**Staffing Levels.** The Department has indicated that staffing levels for the specific shared function must remain at or below the staffing levels in the baseline year (designated as FY 2013 by the Department). If the staffing levels have increased above the baseline year, the district will not be eligible to receive the supplementary weighting for the specific function. Staffing levels will be monitored by the Department using school district staffing level data provided through the Basic Educational Data Survey (BEDS) each year.

**More Information.** For additional information, contact the LSA.

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## HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM

**Federal Grant.** The Homeland Security Grant Program is a grant from the U.S. Office of Domestic Preparedness (ODP). This Program is 100.0% federally funded and requires an 80.0% pass-through to local governments. Funds in this Program are used to plan and prepare for terrorist attacks, protect critical infrastructure, and conduct exercises to assess the readiness of State and local jurisdictions to prevent and respond to terrorist attacks. Homeland Security and Emergency Management serves as the State administrative agency for this federal program

**Grant Award.** Iowa has been allocated \$3.5 million to support the State Homeland Security Program. To receive funding, Homeland Security and Emergency Management was required to submit an application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) by June 24. The anticipated award date is September 1, 2013. The application deadline for pass through awards to local agencies is April 28, 2014.

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## JUNE VETERANS TRUST FUND UPDATE

**Fund Balance.** As of June 30, 2013, the Veterans Trust Fund balance is \$17.9 million. The total principal balance is \$17.6 million. The total spendable portion of the Trust Fund balance (including the interest income and the FY 2013 lottery transfer) is approximately \$262,800. The total amount spent on claims through June 30, 2013, has been approximately \$295,000.

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## IOWA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION – PRESCHOOL PROGRAM REPORT

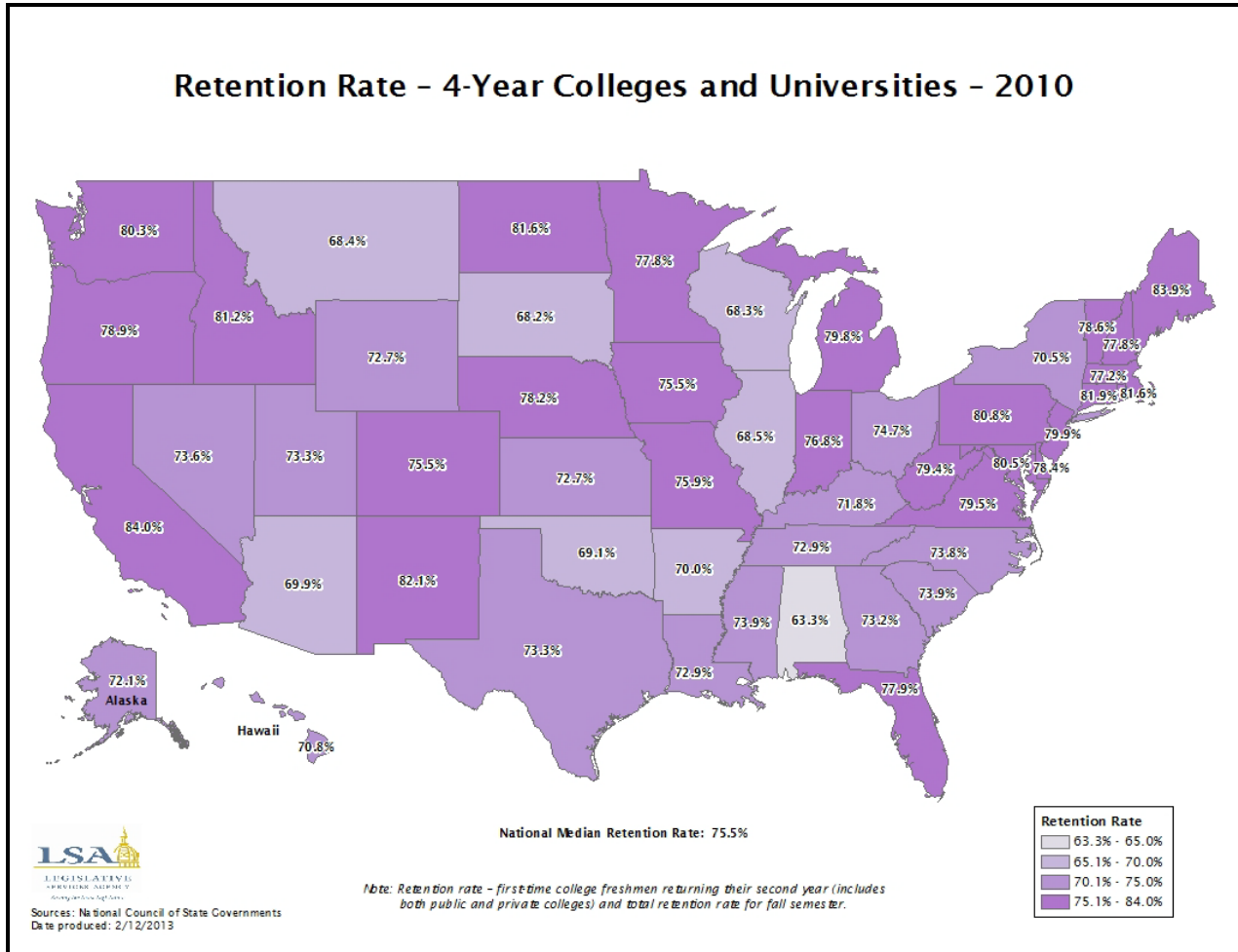
**Report.** The Iowa Department of Education (DE) has released a [Preschool Program Report](#), analyzing third-grade Iowa Tests of Basic Skills (ITBS) results of children enrolled in Iowa's 2007-2008 Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program (SWVPP). The Report was commissioned by the DE to examine the longitudinal impact of the SWVPP. The goal of the Report was to determine whether the preschool program had a lasting impact on the subsequent test scores of the first cohort of children who participated in the preschool program during the 2007-2008 school year. The study was completed by the American Institutes of Research (AIR), a not-for-profit, independent, and nonpartisan organization, at no charge to the DE.

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## MAP – COLLEGE RETENTION RATES

**Map.** The following map compares each state's fall 2010 rate of retention of first-time college freshmen returning their second year. It includes both public and private four-year colleges and universities. In 2010, Iowa's retention rate was 75.5%, the same as the median national average. This map and others are available online at: <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/Resources/Mapping/mapOfTheWeek.aspx>.



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## TEACH IOWA – STATEWIDE TEACHER RECRUITMENT WEBSITE

**Website.** [House File 215](#) (2013 Iowa Acts, Education Reform Act) required the DE to establish and operate an online job posting system. The Iowa Department of Education (DE) and the Iowa Board of Educational Examiners (BOEE) has launched the [Teach Iowa website](#) to display all DE, public school district, charter school, and Area Education Agency (AEA) job postings. In August, the [Teach Iowa website](#) and application solution allows individuals to apply for open positions through the online application process.

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## PUBLIC INPUT WEBPAGE: IMPROVING STATE GOVERNMENT

**Background.** The General Assembly website includes a webpage for public input regarding improving state government. This webpage was originally established at the request of the [State Government Reorganization Commission](#) that met during the 2009 Interim. The charge of the Commission included providing “a process to receive state government efficiency suggestions offered by the public and public employees.” The public comment webpage was just one of the resources used by the Commission to formulate state government reorganization recommendations. The recommendations of the Commission and other reorganization efforts during the 2009 Interim became the basis for [SF 2088 \(Government Reorganization and Efficiency Act\)](#) enacted in 2010. The public comment webpage was deactivated after the 2010 Legislative Session.

**Statutory Committee Established.** A new statutory committee was authorized by SF 2088 in [Iowa Code chapter 2.69](#). The [State Government Efficiency Committee](#) is authorized to meet every two years and membership consists of five Representatives and five Senators. The Committee is charged with reviewing state government operations and making recommendations for “reorganizing state government to improve efficiency, modernize processes, eliminate duplication and outdated processes, reduce costs, and increase accountability.” The Committee is also required to provide a venue for public input. The first Committee meeting was held in November 2011. At that meeting the Committee voted to reactivate the public comment webpage. At the Committee’s request, the LSA reactivated the public comment webpage in late November 2011. The Committee considered the webpage, meeting testimony, and other resources and input to formulate recommendations in the [first meeting final report](#) submitted to the General Assembly in February 2012. These recommendations and other input became the basis for [SF 2338 \(Government Efficiency Bill\)](#) that was approved by the General Assembly during the 2012 Legislative Session. However, the Bill was vetoed by Governor Branstad and was not enacted.

**Public Input Webpage.** The public input webpage that was designed and implemented by the LSA at the request of the State Government Reorganization Commission in 2009, and then reactivated by the State Government Committee in 2011, was intended as a venue for members of the public to submit government reorganization and efficiency strategies. Submissions are anonymous unless the poster chooses to include their identity in the posted response. The staff of the LSA does not edit responses. They are posted verbatim as submitted by the public. The LSA does retain the authority to choose not post items that have obscenities or are deemed inappropriate. However, almost all posts are published and a few were not posted due to obscenities. One post was deleted at the request of the submitter. The LSA also does not review or compile the posts and forward them to legislators. However, copies of all posts have been provided on two occasions: once from the original webpage to the Commission in 2009 and once to the Committee from the reactivated webpage in 2011. Posts (called responses) can be viewed online at: <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/APPS/Feedback/ResponseListing.aspx?qid=2>. To submit a post, go to: <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/APPS/Feedback/ResponseForm.aspx?qid=2>.

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## IOWA READING RESEARCH CENTER DIRECTOR AND WEBSITE

**Director.** The Iowa Reading Research Center was created in [Chapter 1119](#) (2012 Iowa Acts, Education Reform Act). The goal of the Iowa Reading Research Center is to collect and supply current/accurate literacy research to Iowa educators, parents, and the community for use in the classroom, school system, and at home. In July, Dr. Michelle Hosp was hired as the Director of the Center. Dr. Hosp has worked in Nevada, Arizona, Utah, and Florida with a background in evidence-based pedagogy, curriculum, and instruction in literacy.

**Funding.** The Center received a General Fund appropriation of \$1.3 million for FY 2014 in [HF 604](#) (Education Appropriations Act). The Center also received a General Fund supplemental appropriation of \$699,000 for FY 2013 in [HF 614](#) (Bond Repayment and Supplemental Appropriations Act). More information about the Center and resources for educational leaders and parents can be found on their new [website](#).

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## JUVENILE JUSTICE REFORM AND REINVESTMENT INITIATIVE

**Stakeholder Meeting.** The Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning Division (CJJPD) of the Department of Human Rights held a stakeholder meeting July 1 at the Historical Building. The meeting was held to describe and discuss the Juvenile Justice Reform and Reinvestment Initiative (JJRRI) that is funded by the Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP) grant received from the U.S. Department of Justice.

**Federal Grant.** The \$750,000 grant is available for a three-year period. There were three sites selected for this federal demonstration research grant – Dover, Delaware; Milwaukee, Wisconsin; and the State of Iowa. Dr. Stageberg indicated the CJJPD will implement the Results First model – a complementary tool – as part of implementing SPEP. Juvenile justice programs will be reviewed to see how effective they are in reducing recidivism. The CJJPD will be working with Department of Human Services (DHS) staff and Juvenile Court Officers (JCOs), using the Justice Data Warehouse to mine data on program effectiveness.

**Participants.** The Governor endorsed the project and spoke at the stakeholder engagement meeting. Other speakers included representatives from the U.S. Department of Justice – Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, State Senate, Georgetown University, Vanderbilt University, the Urban Institute, State Court Administration, JCOs, and CJJPD.

**More Information.** Additional information is available from the LSA.

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## IOWA PRISON INDUSTRIES – PRIVATE SECTOR EMPLOYMENT REPORT

**Hours Worked.** Iowa Prison Industries (IPI) oversees the employment of offenders in the private sector pursuant to [Iowa Code section 904.809](#) and federal law. Offenders worked a total of 314,900 hours at eight private companies during FY 2013. This is an increase of 24,571 hours worked compared to FY 2012, for an increase of 8.5%.

**Deductions.** During FY 2013, gross wages of offenders employed by private sector companies totaled \$3.1 million; an increase of 13.7% compared to FY 2012. Total payroll taxes paid were \$606,000; that is an increase of 25.9% compared to one year ago. Federal and state laws mandate certain deductions as shown below, with a comparison of FY 2013 to FY 2012:

- Court ordered family and child support – \$140,000, a decrease of \$26,000 (15.6%).
- Restitution and Victim Compensation – \$491,000, an increase of \$69,000 (16.5%).
- Inmate Savings Account – \$599,000, an increase of \$64,000 (12.0%).
- Inmate Mandatory Savings Account – \$18,000, an increase of \$6,500 (56.6%).
- Deposit to the General Fund – \$718,000, an increase of \$72,000 (11.2%).
- Transferred to the Institutions – \$441,000, an increase of \$55,000 (14.3%).

**More information.** Additional information is available from the LSA or the Iowa Prison Industries website at <http://www.iaprisonind.com/>.

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## BUREAU OF JUSTICE REPORT ON PRISON POPULATIONS

**Preliminary Report.** The U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Statistics issued a preliminary report, "[Prisoners in 2012 – Advance Counts](#)" in July 2013. Final prison counts for 2012 are expected in late 2013. The report makes national and state comparisons of incarcerated prisoners (held in prison but not yet sentenced), and sentenced prisoners for such items as demographics, crime type, and incarceration rates.

**State Prisoners.** The report says that the number of state prisoners has declined for the third year in a row and this represents a shift in the direction of incarceration over the last 30 years. State prison populations grew every year between 1978 (307,276 prisoners held in all state prisons) to a high of 1,615,487 in 2009. The estimated state prison population at year-end 2012 is 1,353,198. This is a 2.1% decrease compared to year-end 2011.

**Iowa Data.** Iowa's year-end 2012 prison population was 8,733 offenders; this is a decrease of 4.2% compared to 2011. Iowa's prison population peaked in April 2011 at 9,009 prisoners. The Iowa prison population has been trending downward for the last 18 months. The prison population on July 26, 2013, was 8,136 offenders, or 112.8% of capacity.

**Federal System.** The federal prison system grew 0.7% from 2011 to 2012. This is a lower growth rate than the average annual increase of 3.2% over the past 10 years.

**Imprisonment Rates.** The national imprisonment rate is 480 sentenced prisoners per 100,000 U.S. residents of all ages. This is a decrease of 2.4% compared to 2011. The federal rate was 62 prisoners per 100,000 U.S. residents of all ages, while the state rate was 418 prisoners. Men (910 prisoners) are incarcerated at a much higher level than women (63) prisoners. Iowa's imprisonment rate is estimated to be 282 per 100,000 residents of all ages; this is a decrease of 4.4% compared to 2011.

**More Information.** Additional information may be obtained from the following websites: U.S. Department of Justice – <http://www.justice.gov/>; Office of Justice Programs – <http://www.ojp.gov/>; and the Bureau of Justice Statistics – <http://www.bjs.gov/>.

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## CAPITOL PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

**July Meeting.** The Capitol Planning Commission held its quarterly meeting on July 17, 2013. The following items are highlights from the meeting. For more information and minutes, refer to the Capitol Planning Commission website at: [http://das.gse.iowa.gov/statebldg/capitol\\_plan\\_commission.html](http://das.gse.iowa.gov/statebldg/capitol_plan_commission.html).

**New Commission Members.** New Commission members were appointed by the Governor effective in May 2013, so the current Capitol Planning Commission membership is: William Dikis (elected Chair), Matthew Anderson, Carol Grant, Elizabeth Isaacson, Allison Dorr Kleis, and Robert Weiser (elected Vice-Chair). The Department of Administrative Services (DAS) staffs the Commission. The Director of the DAS, Mike Carroll, is a statutory member. In addition, there are four legislative members: Senator Matt McCoy, Senator Charles Schneider, Representative Ralph Watts, and Representative Dan Kelley.

**Monuments on the Capitol Complex.** The Commission heard updates on existing monuments and the proposal for a new monument. For information on all existing monuments on the Capitol grounds, see <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/Resources/Tour/capitolGrounds.aspx>.

- **Shattering Silence** – The Commission approved an application that two Nebraska high school students submitted to nominate the *Shattering Silence* monument, located near the Judicial Building, to be part of the [National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom](#) within the [National Park Service](#). If accepted, the monument will have national recognition and be listed on the National Park Service website, and will be eligible for Network to Freedom grants.



- **A Monumental Journey** – M. Jessica Rowe, Director, Greater Des Moines Public Art Foundation, presented the proposal to locate a new monument, *A Monumental Journey*, on the Capitol Complex. The public art project is to honor the achievement of the founders of the National Bar Association, an organization that was founded in Iowa in 1925 when African American lawyers were denied membership in other legal organizations. American artist Kerry James Marshall has developed a design prototype. The design is representative of “speaking drums” and will be two African drums sitting slightly off center, atop each other. The sculpture will be made of fiberglass. Funding for the sculpture is being provided by the Iowa National Bar Association, a grant from Prairie Meadows Race Track and Casino, and various other donations and private grants. Depending on the size and location of the monument, the project is estimated to cost approximately \$500,000. During the discussion, some questions were raised about whether the fiberglass would withstand the elements. It is Ms. Rowe’s understanding that the material is the same that is used in ship building. Additional discussion included the potential location of the sculpture. It is recommended by the Foundation that the sculpture be near the Judicial Building in a visible location. The Commission discussed the common theme with the *Shattering Silence* monument and whether the two monuments should be closer together. They also discussed not wanting to overshadow the *Japanese Bell and Bell House* monument. The project was referred to the Site Features Advisory Committee of the Commission for further review and recommendations.
- **Holocaust Memorial** – The DAS staff noted that the Holocaust Memorial is completed on the grounds along the West Capitol Terrace. A dedication ceremony is anticipated for October 2013. The memorial is funded entirely by the Myron and Jacqueline Blank Family Foundation. The design of ribbons of aluminum in concrete, with prairie grasses, is intended to be an abstract representation of a Holocaust survivor’s journey, giving the visitor an emotional sequence through the site. The struggle for survival and perseverance in the face of oppression are described in text samples along the steel. As the visitor moves east, the rolling features of the landscape blossom and expand outward to the Capitol Building, showcasing Iowa’s role as a welcoming refuge for any people in need of a new start.

**B-Cycle Station.** Carl Voss, Chairperson, Des Moines Bicycle Collective, presented information regarding the status of locating a B-Cycle (bicycle) station on the Capitol Complex. Previously, there had been a concern because Wellmark was sponsoring the station, but wanted to be allowed to include signage indicating Wellmark’s participation. This sponsorship signage conflicted with the [Site Features Policy](#) and with [Iowa Code section 8A.108\(2\)\(b\)](#). The Des Moines Bicycle Collective was successful in obtaining federal funding through an Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program grant from the Transportation Commission. Now that the sponsorship issue is no longer a concern, the Collective would like to move forward with getting the station placed on the Complex. The parking lot on the north side of the Lucas Building is the anticipated location. Decisions still need to be made about whether the station will utilize four parking spots, reducing the number for cars during the biking season, or to pour new slabs of concrete for the location. In addition, a decision needs to be made whether to install a two-sided station, if the location is suitable for it. The Commission approved the station in concept and indicated that the Master Plan Committee of the Commission will work with the DAS and the Des Moines Bicycle Collective to make final recommendations. Mr. Voss indicated that with the funding, the Collective plans to install three or four additional stations around Des Moines, but the station on the Capitol Complex would be first in line, if the decisions and approval are made by October 2013. If so, it is anticipated the station will be in operation in spring or summer 2014. During the winter, the station will be removed so that it does not impede snowplows. It is not yet known where the stations will be stored during that time. For additional information about the B-Cycle Stations, see <http://desmoines.bicycle.com/>.

**Building Updates.** The DAS staff provided updates on the status of several buildings. In addition, Mary Cownie, Director, Department of Cultural Affairs, provided an overview of the future of the issues being considered for the Historical Building renovation and next steps for the project. Highlights from the discussion and additional information are provided below.

- **709 and 707 East Locust Street Buildings** – Work has begun to separate the buildings. Demolition of the building at 707 East Locust Street, the former Iowa Association of Community College Trustees building, is planned for the end of July. The Rowhouse is being relocated by a private entity to the East Village and will be prepared to move over the next few weeks. There is a slight delay for

readiness of the new site due to financing issues for the developer. Once the Rowhouse is moved, the DAS will complete the West Capitol Terrace project in that area.

- **Iowa Building (former Mercy Capitol Hospital)** – Abatement work has begun and will require 10 to 12 weeks. It is planned that the building will be razed in mid-September. The DAS anticipates that the grading and seeding of the property will be completed by the end of year, unless an early winter delays the project.
- **Fleet Operations Relocation** – The DAS presented a proposal to relocate the Fleet Services, including the State garage servicing center, the fueling station, and the State Motor Pool to one facility. The current fleet and vehicle dispatcher facility, at the edge of the Capitol Complex near the West Capitol Terrace, was purchased by the State in 1972. The building was built in 1950. The State Motor Pool is located in the State parking structure across from the Wallace and Historical buildings. Moving the fleet operations is in Phase 1 of the 2010 Capitol Complex Master Plan in order to complete the West Capitol Terrace. The DAS estimates relocating all the services to another facility will cost between \$5.0 million and \$7.0 million. A location is not yet secured; it would need to be functional for agencies. An estimated cost to demolish the existing facility is between \$1.0 million and \$1.5 million. Discussion included whether outsourcing the fleet is more economical, and the DAS indicated that a 2012 evaluation found that outsourcing fleet services would cost the State an additional \$6.0 million annually, so it is more viable to keep the fleet services under the DAS. The report, [Cost Comparison of Alternative Fleet Vehicle Provision Methods for the DAS](#), was filed with the General Assembly in February 2012. The staff confirmed that when it is more cost effective to outsource, such as meeting peak demand times, the DAS does work with Enterprise to do so.
- **Historical Building Future** – The Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) hired a museum consultant to complete a needs assessment and make recommendations for improvements. According to the consultant, the building has millions of dollars in deferred maintenance needs and has several issues that need addressing in order for the museum to follow best practices for construction standards and to ensure that collections are not at risk. The September 2012 presentation by Lord Cultural Resources, the museum consultant, summarizing the results and recommendations of the study is at [https://www.legis.iowa.gov/DOCS/LSA/SC\\_MaterialsDist/2013/SDMAT020.PDF](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/DOCS/LSA/SC_MaterialsDist/2013/SDMAT020.PDF). The Historical Building houses offices, State Archives and Library, and the State Historical Museum. The consultant provided three scenarios addressing deferred maintenance only, renovation of the west wing and rebuilding the east wing, or demolition and complete rebuilding. While the DCA is anticipating the renovation option, further planning and design is needed to determine the needs and use of the building, including how to incorporate a visitor's center that complements the West Capitol Terrace and attracts visitors to the Capitol Complex. The consultant recommended that DCA should focus on three priorities: 1) planning for the future; 2) investing in collections care; and 3) building enhancements. During the 2013 Legislative Session, the General Assembly added authorization to prior appropriations for DCA to use funds for the planning stage of the project, including soliciting public feedback. The DCA received \$1.5 million in FY 2013 and \$1.0 million for FY 2014 for Historical Building repairs and renovation. In addition, the General Assembly appropriated \$3.8 million for FY 2015. The DCA must submit a report to the General Assembly by October 15, 2014, about the results of the planning and study of the Historical Building, included anticipated cash flow for the final building design. The Governor has indicated that the Historical Building is his top priority for renovations and updates to buildings on the Capitol Complex.

**Next Meeting.** The next meeting of the Capitol Planning Commission is scheduled for Wednesday, October 16, 2013.

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## **SEX OFFENDER RESEARCH COUNCIL MEETING**

**Meeting.** The Sex Offender Research Council met July 25, 2013, at the Department of Public Safety Building. The Council reviewed its statutory authority in [Iowa Code section 216A.139](#). Dr. Paul Stageberg, Division Director of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning (CJJP), and staff presented information on sex offender data, including demographics, recidivism rates, plus prior and new convictions. Staff have created a preliminary database for convictions under [Iowa Code chapter 710](#)

(Kidnapping) for potential research queries. The Council discussed research opportunities as well as its report to the General Assembly in January 2014. Discussion centered on research and potential recommendations regarding kidnapping of minors, special sentences for sex offenders, long term costs of sexual violence, changes to victim services around the State, and the increasing number of aged, mentally ill sex offenders serving State prison sentences that are due to expire in the near future. The Department of Corrections (DOC) cannot hold the offenders in the prison system past the expiration of the prison sentence. The number of offenders in this category is expected to increase in future years.

**More Information.** Additional information is available on CJJP's web site at:  
<http://www.humanrights.iowa.gov/cjpp/index.html>.

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## IOWA TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION MEETING

**July Meeting.** The Iowa Telecommunications and Technology Commission (ITTC) met on July 18, 2013. The following items are highlights from the meeting discussion. For more information, refer to the ITTC website at: <http://icn.iowa.gov/>.

**Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) Grant.** The project was completed on time and finished June 30, 2013. The project came in under budget. The Iowa Communications Network (ICN) is working with the federal National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) for the final administrative phase of the project to ensure all of the reporting and other grant requirements are met. The \$16.2 million BTOP Grant was received in 2010 and began the three year upgrade to the network. The project allowed the ICN to remove legacy equipment, streamline protocols used on the network, and provide the additional bandwidth to Part III connections and to all of the counties. The upgrade afforded by the BTOP Grant project is providing bandwidth over 10 gigabits per second (Gbps) to all 99 counties. Approximately 81.6% of the Part III ICN connections received improved service and were directly affected by the BTOP Project.

**Sale of ICN.** The summary and recommendations from the ICN and ITTC have been provided to the Governor and his staff. The ICN staff is answering questions as needed and will present the ITTC recommendation to the Governor. Any final decision to sell or lease the network must be approved by the General Assembly and signed by the Governor, in accordance the [Iowa Code section 8D.12](#). For additional discussion about the offers made for the purchase of the ICN refer to the [Fiscal Update published July 12, 2013](#).

**FY 2015 Video Rates.** The ICN has begun the process to set FY 2015 video rates and will receive comments from users. Once the comments are received and compiled the ICN staff will report to the ITTC. Typically, video rates for the next fiscal year are approved by the ITTC in September. In accordance with Iowa Administrative Code [751 IAC 12](#), the ITTC must provide written notice of the video rates.

**New Products.** The ICN is launching the unified communications services via various OpenScape Voice products, providing Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP) technology. There are four products the ICN is preparing to release: OpenScape Voice Analog allows analog phones to run across the IP platform, OpenScape Voice Essential with standard PBX features across the IP platform; OpenScape Voice Premium provides managed services and unified communications; and OpenScape Voice Contact Centers provide options for contact centers (call centers). The ICN has been testing on its own office with the change to OpenScape before other State agencies are moved to the new platform. The Department of Corrections is working with the ICN to use OpenScape products at the newly expanded Mitchellville prison and at the new Fort Madison prison.

**Budget.** The ICN staff presented the budget to the ITTC and noted that while typically the ITTC has an opportunity to approve the budget before it is given to the Governor, during the preparations for the FY 2014 budget cycle, the staff did not have a chance to bring it before the ITTC and apologized. The Governor had asked for a two year budget, so FY 2015 was already submitted. For the FY 2015 budget, it is anticipated that there will be a chance to modify what was submitted last year. One item discussed is that personnel costs are listed as going up, but that is because if they want to keep the FTE positions, they need to budget for them. The ICN anticipates filling some of the 12 vacant positions, but not all of them.

**Next Meeting.** The next ITTC meeting will be telephonic and held on Wednesday, August 21, 2013, at 10:30 a.m. Members of the public have access to the meeting at the ICN office in the Grimes Building on the State Capitol Complex.

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### **BOARD OF CORRECTIONS MEETING**

**Meeting.** The Board of Corrections met July 12, 2013, at the Sixth Community-Based Corrections (CBC) District Department in Cedar Rapids. Board Chairperson Charles Larson, Sr. welcomed Senators Courtney, Taylor, Hogg and Dvorsky. Mr. Bruce VanderSanden, Director of the Sixth CBC District Department, welcomed the Board, staff, and guests.

**Director's Report.** Mr. John Baldwin, Director of the Department of Corrections (DOC), informed the Board that Executive Secretary Fay Olson retired in June. He indicated that the States became responsible for implementing the federal standards of the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) this year. There will be three audits conducted in Iowa to monitor PREA compliance; the auditors are coming from the State DOC in Nebraska. Offenders less than 18 years old convicted in adult court are required to be separated by sight and sound from the adult prison population. The DOC is in the process of creating a separate housing unit at the Anamosa State Penitentiary for young male offenders. Currently, there are no young female offenders in the DOC. If and when the DOC receives a sentenced female under 18 years old, they will be transferred out of Iowa to a state (probably to North Dakota) that has space designed for these offenders. The current cost is \$186 per day.

**Issues.** There were 31 judges that toured the Newton Correctional Facility and the Iowa Correctional Institution for Women (ICIW) at Mitchellville. The judges are forming a group to mentor the female offenders. There has been community placement issues for the last six years on placing offenders convicted of sex offenses, or are mentally ill or geriatric, and being released from prison. Usually, these offenders have served their full sentence and the DOC has no right to hold them in the prison or CBC system. The Clarinda Mental Health Institute (MHI) recently agreed to accept a wheelchair-bound sex offender. It took 40 or 50 attempts at a community placement before the MHI accepted him.

**ICON.** The State Chief Information Officer (CIO) spent about 2.5 hours at ATG (Advanced Technologies Group – an information technology company specializing in creating and maintaining corrections applications). The AGT company developed the Iowa Corrections Offender Network (ICON) in collaboration with the DOC. The Director indicated the meeting was most informative. The Director welcomed Allan Thoms, Chair of the Sixth CBC Board of Directors.

**Legal Update.** Assistant Attorney General Bill Hill updated the Board on recent legal activities within the DOC. He recently attended a National Institute of Corrections (NIC) training conference for chief legal counsel in each state. About 45 states were represented and most states have more serious legal issues in their Institutions. It continues to be a struggle with mentally ill offenders, both while they are in prison and transitioning them to the community. Sex offenders continue to seek legal redress. Participation in the Sex Offender Treatment Program (SOTP) is required under State law, or else the offender loses earned time. The DOC usually schedules the treatment towards the end of the offender's sentence because there are waiting lists for treatment. Offenders claim this practice results in a mandatory minimum term because the Board of Parole will not consider them for early release until they have completed the SOTP. There are also release issues with sex offenders while transitioning them to the community or the Civil Commitment Unit for Sex Offenders (CCUSO). Also, there are five lawsuits pending by sex offenders that want to have visits from their children. These children are their family; they



are not the victims. One of the purposes of visitation is to reunite the family. There are legal issues of the PREA in assuring compliance with conforming practices to the applicability of federal law.

**Court Cases.** There were three recent Iowa Supreme Court cases on searches of parolees that impact the practices of the DOC and CBC District Departments. There is a parole agreement that the parolee is required to sign that states the parolee is subject to search at any time. The Court ruled this is coercion. Also, police were searching parolees, using the authority of the parole agreement, even if a parole officer was not present. The Court decided this was not appropriate. The Attorney General's Office will work with the DOC, Parole Board, and CBC District Departments to resolve these issues. There are legal issues related to medical access and religion, as well as personnel, but there are no compelling cases pending at this time.

**Education.** Dr. Lisa Hill presented the results of her dissertation to the Board – *Breaking Through the Bars: Understanding K12 Education through the Voices of Incarcerated Individuals*. Dr. Hill works with at-risk students. She interviewed 25 offenders at the Fort Dodge, Mitchellville, and Rockwell City Prisons that had received special services while in school; 12 of these offenders she had counseled herself. Some of these students had received assistance throughout their educational experience. Dr. Hill's research focused on schools not family. The most frequently stated words during the offender interviews were understand, help, ask, care, listen, and pay attention. The voices of students are not heard. She found that the key to learning is listening. She stated the offenders were very satisfied and have positive experiences with the DOC's education programming.

**Facilities.** Sixth CBC District Director Bruce VanderSanden indicated the 26-bed ANCHOR Center is scheduled to open in January 2014, focused on mentally ill offenders. It is currently being used for out-patient services but no offenders are living there. First CBC District Director Karen Herkelman stated the Waterloo Women's Center for Change will open in October 2013. The Center will focus on providing opportunities for women to make positive changes in their lives.

**Jail Diversion.** Dr. Melinda Lamb provided information on Linn County's Jail Diversion Program. The Sixth CBC District Department contracts with Linn County to divert jailed inmates with a mental health diagnosis or co-occurring disorder to supervision. The District Department formed a work group of judges, mental health providers, county attorney's office, and staff to design the program. The statewide mental health re-design will impact the program, but the District will adapt as necessary.

**Risk Assessment.** Ms. Lettie Prell, Research Director for the DOC, discussed the Iowa Risk Assessment with the Board. She developed and validated the tool for the Board of Parole's use. The tool focuses on the risk for violence and the risk for victimization. She is currently testing the tool for probation supervision to determine if it is a valid tool for setting supervision levels. She is also testing the tool to see if it is valid for predicting the needs of female offenders.

**Budget.** The DOC Deputy Director Brad Hier updated the Board and requested their input on the FY 2015 budget process. The August meeting starts the process.

**Public Comments.** During the public comments section of the meeting, Senator Hogg requested an update on the Waterloo Drug Court. District Director Herkelman indicated the need is approximately \$70,000 for a treatment contract to keep it operating. Senator Dvorsky indicated that three meetings have been requested for the Legislative Fiscal Committee. One meeting would be held at the University of Northern Iowa – Cedar Falls. Another meeting would focus on construction. The DOC needs to show graphically how the CBC system impacts the prison system and vice versa, as well as CBC programs and their impact on reducing recidivism. Director Baldwin thanked the General Assembly for appropriating \$2.6 million from the General Fund for operations. That money has not yet been distributed across the DOC. A lot depends on salary cost projections.

**CCIA.** Sixth CBC Board Chair Allan Thoms thanked the Board of Corrections for holding its meeting in Cedar Rapids. He spoke to the Sixth CBC District Department's association with the Community Corrections Improvement Association (CCIA) that is a non-profit entity.

**Next Meeting.** The next Board meeting will be held at Mitchellville on August 16.

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**IOWA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING**

**FY 2013 Financials:** The Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) Board met July 19, 2013. The current estimated usage of the IEDA Tax Credit Cap for FY 2013 is \$184.1 million. This is \$14.1 million above the increased tax credit cap that was approved in HF 620 (IEDA Tax Related Changes Act) enacted during the 2013 Legislative Session. The Authority continues to review any final award declines and rescissions from FY 2013 that could be re-awarded without impacting the FY 2014 cap. The additional awards in FY 2013 makes the FY 2014 cap an estimated \$155.9 million.

**FY 2014 Awards:** The IEDA Board made several new High Quality Job Program (HQJP) awards and amended a previous award. Tax credits for three new awards and the amendment to a previous award totaled \$28.4 million. There was also a HQJP Award for \$200,000 in a loan and forgivable loan.

**Other Business:** IEDA Director Debi Durham reported that the Authority is continuing to move forward with preparing a listing of Large Certified Sites. This will assist companies looking for locations of 250 acres and above. The Authority also has a goal of having a listing of small sites (50-249 acres) in all 99 counties. Also in the early stages of discussion is the possibility of developing a proposal for a program to assist mid-sized technology companies.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Board will be August 16, 2013.

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**MEETINGS MONITORED**

**Meetings Monitored.** The following meetings were monitored by Fiscal Services staff. Please contact the staff listed for more information.

| <b>Meeting</b>   | <b>Date</b>   | <b>Staff Contact</b>                                 |
|--|---------------|--|
| Administrative Rules Review Committee                    | July 9, 2013  | Beth Lenstra(281-6301)                               |
| Natural Resource Commission                              | July 11, 2013 | Deb Kozel (281-6767)                                 |
| Board of Corrections                                     | July 12, 2013 | Beth Lenstra (281-6301)                              |
| Capitol Planning Commission                              | July 17, 2013 | Marcia Tannian (281-7942)                            |
| Iowa Telecommunications and Technology Commission        | July 18, 2013 | Marcia Tannian (281-7942)                            |
| Iowa Economic Development Authority Board                | July 19, 2013 | Kent Ohms (725-2200)                                 |
| Sex Offender Research Council                            | July 25, 2013 | Beth Lenstra (281-6301)<br>Jennifer Acton (281-7846) |
| Water Resource Coordinating Council                      | July 26, 2013 | Deb Kozel (281-6767)                                 |
| Iowa 911 Communications Council                          | July 31, 2013 | Jennifer Acton (281-7846)                            |
| Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications System Board | July 31, 2013 | Jennifer Acton (281-7846)                            |

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