



The Iowa County

magazine

July 2023
Opioid Settlement Funds



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The Iowa County

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ISAC's Mission:

To promote effective and responsible county government
for the people of Iowa.

ISAC's Vision:

To be the principal, authoritative source of representation,
information and services for and about county government
in Iowa.

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NACo Resources to Maximize the Impact of Opioid Settlement Funds

Between 1999 and 2021, prescription opioids were involved in more overdose deaths than any other drugs in the United States, including heroin, cocaine, and methamphetamine. Nearly 180,000 people died of a prescription opioid-involved overdose in this period, which is more than the population of Scott County.

Counties are on the frontline of the opioid epidemic, providing public services that save lives and support recovery. Our 911 call centers and county-run crisis lines are the first to receive calls for help when an overdose happens. Our first responders, and increasingly mental health clinicians, are the first to arrive on the scene to stabilize the crisis and offer support. Our local crisis triage centers serve as safe places before, during, and after a behavioral health crisis to access services, treatment, and immediate and ongoing care.



Samantha Karon, MPH
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Between 2016 and 2020, local governments filed thousands of lawsuits against pharmaceutical companies to resolve their liabilities in creating the opioid epidemic. In 2022, the first, and largest, of the national opioid settlements was finalized for \$26 billion. As of June 2023, cities, counties, and states have negotiated over \$50 billion in opioid settlement payments.

New funding from opioid settlements presents an opportunity for counties to sustain and strengthen our response to the ongoing opioid epidemic. To help counties maximize the impact of this unique funding stream, NACo is developing custom planning, implementation, and peer learning resources through the Opioid Solutions Center. Resources include:

Planning Principles Toolkit

The Principles for the Use of Funds from the Opioid Litigation are nationally recognized guidance for states, counties, and cities receiving money from the lawsuits against entities that contributed to the opioid epidemic. These planning Principles, coordinated by faculty at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, can help jurisdictions ensure these funds make the greatest possible difference in their communities.

Principles for the Use of Funds from the Opioid Litigation

1. Spend the money to save lives
2. Use evidence to guide spending
3. Invest in youth prevention
4. Focus on racial equity
5. Develop a fair and transparent process for determining where to spend the money

To help counties apply the Principles in their local contexts, NACo is partnering with Johns Hopkins to create a series of Quick Guides illustrating how the Principles can inform and support county administration of opioid settlement funds. In just three to four pages, each Quick Guide describes the steps to put specific Principles into action. For example, *The Principles: A Quick Guide to Conducting a Needs Assessment* covers how counties can apply Principle 1 (spend money to save lives) and Principle 2 (use evidence to guide spending) by conducting a community health needs assessment. After connecting each strategy to its underlying Principle(s), the resource details what this process entails, who in the county is best positioned to lead it, when it should be conducted, and why it's important for planning opioid settlement spending.

Approved Strategies

The terms of the \$26 billion settlement require participating state and local governments to spend the majority (85%) of settlement payments on strategies that will mitigate the effects of the opioid epidemic. The settlement agreement provides an extensive – though not exhaustive – list of approved uses in a document referred to as Exhibit E.

NACo Resources to Maximize the Impact of Opioid Settlement Funds

To help counties assess and prioritize the many approved uses of opioid settlement funds, NACo worked with a team of advisors to identify 25 high-impact strategies that are under county authority. For each of these 25 strategies, NACo is developing concise briefing documents customized to county government. Each brief focuses on a specific opioid abatement strategy and summarizes the available evidence, best practices for implementation, county examples, and links to additional resources, including opportunities for specialized technical assistance.

Strategy brief topics include:

- Naloxone to reverse overdose
- Medications for opioid use disorder
- Treatment for incarcerated populations
- Treatment for pregnant and parenting people
- Syringe services programs

Opioid Solutions Leadership Network

The Opioid Solutions Leadership Network is a learning and leadership-building community for county leaders pursuing innovative and evidence-based solutions with opioid settlement funds. The Network, formed at the beginning of this year, represents 30 county leaders from 15 states, including elected officials, appointed officials, practitioners, and community partners.

The goals of the network are to:

1. Elevate the role of counties in effectively investing settlement funds to save lives and address the needs of people with substance use disorders
2. Provide a platform for county leaders to share knowledge and offer support to their counterparts across the country

Through a series of virtual and in-person convenings, the Network will explore opioid abatement strategies across the substance use continuum of care (i.e., prevention, treatment, recovery, and harm reduction); travel to one another's communities to see opioid solutions in action; and receive expert guidance from NACo's thought partners. The network recently convened for a peer exchange program in Granville and Vance Counties, North Carolina and will convene again this fall in Milwaukee County, Wisconsin.

Get Involved

These resources and more are available on the Opioid Solutions Center website, www.naco.org/opioid. We'd love to learn about your county's plans for opioid settlement funds and share these examples on our website, in future materials or at future NACo events, such as the upcoming 2023 NACo Annual Conference.

For more information, please contact:

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Scan the QR Code to visit
NACo's Opioid Solutions
Center



Principles for the Use of Funds from Opioid Litigation

Introduction

The opioid epidemic continues to be a pervasive and catastrophic public health problem across the United States. The increase in overdose related deaths in the last few years persists despite over two decades of public health response due to the increase of fentanyl and other contaminants in the drug supply.

The many litigations against pharmaceutical opioid manufacturers, distributors, and pharmacies for their role in the opioid epidemic are being settled and states, cities, and counties are beginning to receive funds from the litigation. They are now tasked with the responsibility of planning for and spending the settlement dollars.

In January of 2021, staff and faculty from the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health as part of the Bloomberg Overdose Prevention Initiative coordinated the creation of five guiding principles to help states in this process. A diverse coalition of 60 organizations from across the spectrum of substance use and addiction medicine, prevention, advocacy, recovery, and harm reduction, is now advocating for the proper use of litigation dollars through the implementation of these principles.



Sara Whaley, MSW, MPH, MA

Bloomberg Overdose Prevention Initiative,
Johns Hopkins School of Public Health
opioidprinciples.jhsph.edu

The Principles:

1. Spend money to save lives.

Given how states used the funds from the tobacco settlements and the increasing rates of overdose across the country, it is imperative that the opioid settlement dollars are protected and used towards future opioid abatement.

To ensure that the litigation dollars are used to save the lives of individuals who use drugs, jurisdictions should create a dedicated fund for ALL funds from opioid related litigation. The agreement for the creation of the fund should include language that dollars should be used to supplement existing and should not replace funding for existing substance use programming.

2. Use evidence to guide spending.

At this point in the overdose epidemic, researchers and clinicians have built a substantial body of evidence demonstrating what works and what does not. Additionally, many of the settlement terms outline “allowable uses” within their agreements. For a comprehensive outline of evidence related to the nine Core Strategies outlined by the “Big 3” Settlement the Principles team has created the Primer On Spending Funds From The Opioid Litigation: A Guide For State And Local Decision Makers. The Primer offers explicit suggestions for how to invest settlement funds related to each of the Core Strategies.

However, within these allowable uses, jurisdictions may still be tempted to invest in programs that are not supported by evidence or programs that do not meet the needs of their community. The Principles team partnered with NACo to create a Quick Guide to Conducting Needs Assessments to help guide jurisdictions through the process of exploring the strengths and areas of need in their community. A needs assessment can help counties prioritize areas of intervention that are most needed in the community and also identify which programs are having an impact supporting individuals and families. Counties should be sure to offer a variety of interventions across the continuum of care including services for prevention, treatment, recovery, and harm reduction.

Principles for the Use of Funds from the Opioid Litigation

- 1 Spend Money to Save Lives
- 2 Use Evidence to Guide Spending
- 3 Invest in Youth Prevention
- 4 Focus on Racial Equity
- 5 Develop a Fair and Transparent Process

Reference: www.opioidprinciples.jhsph.edu

Principles for the Use of Funds from Opioid Litigation

3. Invest in youth prevention.

Good public health response should also include a strategy for primary prevention to interrupt the cycle of substance use and prevent new individuals from misusing drugs. Investing in youth prevention programs is a long-term investment with high return and can have drastic improvements on communities.

Although this is an important piece to ending the overdose crisis, not all prevention programs are created equal. Like all program investments, jurisdictions should vet prevention programs and utilize only those that have a solid evidence base. Litigation dollars could also be used to evaluate programs for their effectiveness.

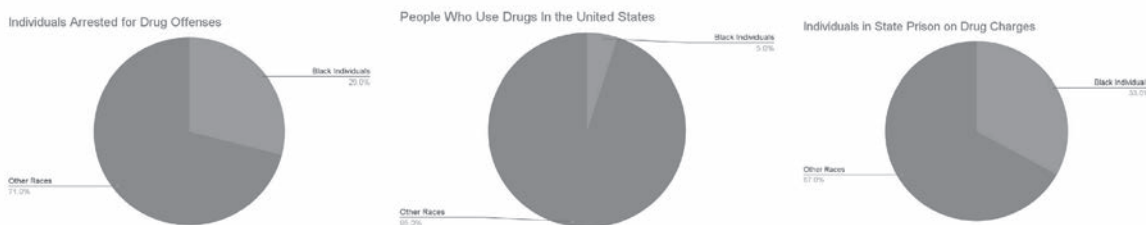
While many jurisdictions may be focused on drug takeback initiatives or medication disposal programs, many youth overdoses are the result of illicit drug use and the presence of fentanyl in the drug supply. Jurisdictions should consider programs that strengthen youth resilience, public education campaigns, drug-checking (like fentanyl test strips), and Naloxone distribution as evidence-based strategies to support youth prevention.

4. Focus on racial equity.

Marginalized communities, especially communities of color, experience substance use disorders at similar rates as other racial groups. However, in recent years the rate of opioid overdose deaths has been increasing more rapidly in Black populations than in white ones. Additionally, marginalized communities are also more likely to face barriers in accessing high-quality treatment and recovery support services.

In careful planning for the use of the opioid litigation funds, jurisdictions can leverage this opportunity to reevaluate how current funds are being spent and make a focused and concerted effort to ensure equitable access to services.

Black individuals are more likely to experience criminal justice involvement compared to their white counterparts.



Localities should make investments in minoritized communities and fund programs that address the root causes of health inequities. They should also remove policies that are discriminatory. Specifically, jurisdictions should fund programs that provide alternatives to diversion and arrest, anti-stigma campaigns, and inclusive community programs with a representative workforce.

5. Develop a fair and transparent process for deciding where to spend the funding.

To ensure that the decision-making process is objective and rooted in the previous four Principles, jurisdictions should recruit a diverse group of individuals to guide the process. These individuals should have a background in public health science, experience with the opioid crisis, lived experience, and community involvement. Additionally, the details of the decisions should be made available to the public.

Applying the Principles

Across the United States, no two jurisdictions are alike – the scope of the opioid crisis may be different and the available services vary by locality, making the landscape unique in every community. The Principles were intentionally designed to be broad so that jurisdictions could interpret them and apply them to best suit the needs of their community.

Principles for the Use of Funds from Opioid Litigation

Currently the Principles have been incorporated in at least a fourth of state plans or guidance, and have are also being applied at the local level. To acknowledge the variety of ways the Principles are being used, a group including faculty from Johns Hopkins and representatives from many of the endorsing organizations launched the Excellence in the Application of the Opioid Litigation Principles Awards. On a quarterly basis, these awards will recognize jurisdictions that have demonstrated rigorous application of the Principles in their decision making process, including a focus on evidence, equity, and transparency.

In Quarter 1 of 2023, the Award was presented to Rock County, Wisconsin, and the county-established work group made up of county agencies and tasked with making recommendations on how to spend the funds.

The work group made a commitment to creating evidence-based recommendations that would address these areas of needs. They did this by soliciting feedback from a diverse group of stakeholders including: local prevention coalitions, the public, and affected communities. The Rock County Public Health Department developed a survey and solicited responses through word-of-mouth, social media, email, and advertising. Over 250 people completed the survey.

Additionally, the Health Department held two listening sessions with the public, including one that was specifically reserved for people with lived experience and their families. Finally, the Health Department held informal interviews with community members who worked directly with people who use drugs. The work group's Report of Recommendations to the Board of Supervisors specifically referenced the evidence supporting each of the recommendations. The report also includes a rubric that would be used to evaluate any proposals submitted to the county for the use of the funds which includes elements that directly address equity.

Does your county's approach to the litigation dollars align with the Principles?

The Awards are given quarterly, so nominate your county today!

For more information on the Principles and to read the Principles Blog with updated information on the settlements and useful strategies for settlement investments, visit opioidprinciples.jhsph.edu.

Delivering Solutions to America's Devastating Opioid Epidemic

Every day, families in every community of every state in our nation receive the devastating news that a loved one has died from a drug overdose. I have heard these stories firsthand from heartbroken parents who have lost children far too young and from families that, to this day, endure the wrenching pain of the empty seat at the dinner table. As a father of four, it breaks my heart. Tragically, these stories are all too common. In 2022 alone, nearly 110,000 Americans died from a drug overdose, which includes roughly 75,000 people who succumbed to synthetic opioids like fentanyl – a grim milestone in our nation's history.

Born and raised in rural Iowa, I know that the opioid epidemic does not geographically discriminate. From 1999 to 2015, overdose deaths increased by 325% in rural counties, and according to a 2017 survey commissioned by the National Farmers Union and the American Farm Bureau Federation, roughly 74% of farmers have been directly impacted by the opioid epidemic.



Congressman Randy Feenstra
Iowa's 4th Congressional District
feenstra.house.gov

In response to these alarming statistics, Senator Chucky Grassley and I joined forces to introduce our *Rural Opioid Abuse Prevention Act* – which was signed into law in December of 2022 – to equip our rural communities and first responders with the resources they need to expand opioid treatment, support families, and save lives. This law, which codifies the Rural Responses to the Opioid Initiative, provides grants to our local communities and nonprofit organizations to implement proven solutions and recovery programs for opioid addiction.

More recently, I voted for, and the U.S. House of Representatives passed, several pieces of legislation – including the *Preventing the Financing of Illegal Synthetic Drugs Act* and the *HALT Fentanyl Act* – to combat the opioid epidemic, hold dangerous drug traffickers accountable for their crimes, and stop the endless flow of deadly fentanyl into our communities. More specifically, these two bills will help us identify and eradicate the illicit financing mechanisms employed by drug cartels to profit off human lives and permanently list all fentanyl-related substances under Schedule I of the *Controlled Substances Act*, allowing law enforcement to swiftly confiscate fentanyl and other deadly substances at our border and throughout our country.

The scourge of opioids is devastating to our families and our communities. We need real solutions to get these deadly drugs off our streets and protect precious lives. In Congress, I will continue to work with my colleagues to secure our open border, punish dangerous drug traffickers, and ensure that fewer Americans endure the pain of losing a cherished family member.

Representing Iowa's 4th Congressional District is an honor and privilege that I cherish, and I encourage you to contact my office online at Feenstra.House.Gov or 202.225.4426 to share your thoughts with me because we are government – together.

God bless,
Randy Feenstra
Member of Congress

2023 NACo Western Interstate Region Conference

I had the privilege of attending the NACo Western Interstate Regional (WIR) Conference in St. George, Utah, from May 15-20. I flew out of Des Moines with Kristi Harshbarger, ISAC General Counsel and fellow NACo Board Member. When the plane landed, I was amazed by the area of many mountain ranges and red and gray rock formations of a desert like area that is extremely hot but has low humidity, which is not something I am accustomed to living in the Midwest. Later we were joined by Bill Peterson, ISAC Executive Director, and Grant Veeder, Black Hawk County Auditor and NACo Board Member.

That evening, a few of us enjoyed dinner at a unique restaurant that served your steak on a 600-degree rock. We all removed our steaks that were cooked to our liking; the entire meal was delicious.

Tuesday was the tour day, and I chose to visit Best Friends, which is an animal rescue organization that is known nationwide. This organization is self-supporting with a budget of over \$100 million. Its funding consists of only donations with no outside assistance from local or state government. I am a huge fan of old western movies, and the place we ate lunch was the site where the Lone Ranger was filmed, which also includes an amphitheater. Across the road is where the movie Josey Wales was filmed. This trip totally made my day!

Wednesday was the beginning of the conference; I was glad that everything was within a one to two block walking distance. I attended the opening session and the key issues they were discussing were mainly land, water, forest, and forest fires. In talking with other attendees from the western states, I was surprised at how they viewed our government and the control they have over our many resources; it is almost like we live in a different world.

I was asked by NACo to present what kind of impact disasters can create in a small, rural county. I showed a slide presentation with the disaster of flooding in 2019, that was caused by the perfect storm. A video showed the disaster and destruction of our county infrastructure of roads, people's homes, and the destruction of a small town all caused by the force of the water. With the help of local, state, and federal agencies the county has weathered the storm. However, four years later we are trying to close out the paperwork, the city is still trying to restructure and rebuild, and the county was left with 70 residences in the rural area that we can virtually do nothing with at this time. We will never be able to sell any of these parcels, and we are limited as to what can be done on them. The best hope is for some of our local farmers to be able to cash rent from us and put the land that once was farm ground that went to rural residential housing developments to hopefully farmable ground again in some areas.

Two other counties in the western region also presented. One presentation was the devastation left in their county from a large corporation that employed a lot of people that basically boarded up their doors and left one night without the employees or anyone knowing this was coming down the pike and leaving these employees without jobs. The second presentation was an area where many residents were employed by the coal mine, and the employees came to work one day and were told the mine was shutting down. This left many people without jobs. I did find it interesting how each of our counties were alike but vastly different on how the "disaster" was handled.



Richard Crouch
Mills County Supervisor
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2023 NACo Western Interstate Region Conference



It was very much a pleasure to represent the state of Iowa and be a presenter at this conference. I would like to thank the following people that helped me prepare for this presentation: Mills County IT Department, Emergency Management Department, and our county auditor, Carol Robertson, and staff. A special thank you to NACo's Grace Blanchard that helped set this all up.

Friday was the closing day to sit in the sessions of interest. The most important, and my all-time favorite of course, was Grant Veeder and his limericks for the meeting.

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Policy Process for 2024

The development of the ISAC legislative package is member driven and updated annually. Ideas for law changes and stances on specific issues come from individual county officials and our affiliate organizations. The annual legislative package developed and approved by the membership guides ISAC as bills are introduced each legislative session.

Development of the 2024 ISAC legislative package has already begun as affiliate organizations have or are currently reviewing proposals from individual members. Some of these proposals are returning ideas that have gotten some traction at the capitol but haven't made it to the governor's desk just yet, while others are new ideas to help solve a problem identified at the county level or in a specific department. Affiliates vet these proposals to determine if the issue is widespread, needs legislative action, and has a realistic chance of being considered by the current legislature. Each affiliate then submits its chosen proposals to the ISAC Legislative Policy Committee (LPC). This year's deadline for both affiliate and individual proposals is August 1.



Lucas Beenken
ISAC Public Policy Specialist
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The LPC is comprised of two representatives from each of ISAC's 16 affiliate organizations and is chaired by the ISAC 2nd Vice President, which this year is Carroll County Attorney John Werden. The first meeting of the LPC will be August 22, at which the legislative proposals for 2024 will be considered. The committee also reviews the current year legislative package for updates. Past year proposals may be kept, amended, or removed. Amendments could come in the form of updated language or fine-tuning the proposal or moving an objective to a policy statement (more on that later). Proposals may also be removed if the governor signed a bill addressing the issue, there is no longer interest in pursuing the idea, or in some cases if the outlook for a given issue is not hopeful given the makeup of the legislature.

In developing the legislative package, the LPC may include a proposal in one of three areas: policy statement, objective, or top priority. Policy Statements, as the name implies, are declarations of principle on specific issues. For example, ISAC has a longstanding statement on the importance of retaining the county compensation board. Seemingly every legislative session there are bills introduced to abolish the compensation board, so this policy statement guides our opposition to the idea of abolishment while focusing on how the system could be improved. Legislative Objectives are specific identified problems with a proposed solution. The government relations team will actively pursue bill drafts to address these identified problems with the proposed solution. An example from this year is the treasurers' objective on the filing dates for certain tax credits. They identified an issue with refunds being issued to the property owner when they missed the deadline for good cause and thought it made more sense to move the good-cause deadline extension. The legislature and governor agreed, and HF 318 was signed into law. Top Priorities are also self-explanatory in name and are the three to five legislative objectives that rise to that higher level of importance and urgency. These are typically issues that have or would have a significant statewide impact and could affect multiple departments or the county as a whole. As an example, our top priority this year on competency testing and mental health treatment for inmates is of extreme importance to our community services, sheriffs and sheriffs' deputies, and supervisors affiliates, and has an impact in every county and MH/DS region.

The LPC meets again in September, and over the two meetings will develop recommendations for policy statements, legislative objectives, and top priorities. The proposed legislative package is then considered by the full membership, and in October voting members have the opportunity to offer feedback and ultimately vote online for individual legislative objectives as well as the policy statements as a block. The ISAC Board of Directors will then consider the recommendations from the LPC, online membership voting, and government relations staff and approve a final

Continued on page 16.

Financial Peace of Mind - Brought to You by IPAIT

Now Is The Time...

The Federal Reserve recently raised rates for the 10th time since March 2022, marking 10 consecutive increases in the last 15 months! With the most recent increase, the Iowa Public Agency Investment Trust (IPAITS) surpassed the 4.8% interest rate mark; rates we haven't seen since 2007.

Currently, there are 450 Iowa public entities taking advantage of IPAITS's daily rate. While most are investing in the IPAITS Fund directly, a number have told me their local bank is matching the IPAITS daily rate. If you are not investing directly in IPAITS, you should at least be getting the IPAITS rate or better. At minimum, be sure your bank is increasing their rate in tandem with the Fed!

Due to the increased rates, we have fielded several IPAITS-related questions. I thought I'd share and answer below:



Paul Kruse

Senior Vice President - Director, Iowa
PMA Financial Network, LLC
pkruise@pmanetwork.com

Q: *What is the current interest rate, and does it change?*

A: The IPAITS daily rate can always be found on the IPAITS website (www.ipait.org), and it can change. The interest rate as of June 11 was 4.79%. All IPAITS Participants get the same daily rate no matter the dollars invested.

Q: *My county hasn't invested for quite some time but would like to invest again. What do I do to get started?*

A: Contact one of the IPAITS representatives (use QR code on the next page), and check if bank information or authorized signers need to be updated.

Q: *My county would like to start investing in IPAITS and take advantage of the current rates. What do we need to do?*

A: The board of supervisors needs to pass the IPAITS enabling resolution and complete the application. Once the county passes the resolution, they can invest (with no obligation to do so).

Q: *Why should my county pass the IPAITS Resolution?*

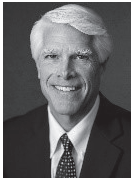
A:

- ▶ It doesn't cost anything.
- ▶ It provides an investment option for liquid funds.
- ▶ It can be a good barometer for investment rates in Iowa.
- ▶ It obtains certificate of deposit rates from outside areas in addition to treasury rates.
- ▶ It provides an available option when your local bank doesn't want public funds.
- ▶ It provides diversification.
- ▶ It facilitates the laddering of bond proceeds during the construction phase.
- ▶ It offers the ability to have unlimited accounts with daily access and no minimum balances.
- ▶ It offers online investment capabilities and reporting.
- ▶ Bank philosophies and/or ownership can change.

Now is the time to utilize the IPAITS Fund, whether it's investing in IPAITS or using the Fund to get a better rate locally... take advantage of one of the perks of ISAC membership!

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To learn more and contact an IPAiT representative, scan or click the below:



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About the Author:

Paul Kruse began marketing the IPAiT program in 1992 and is available to meet with your board of supervisors to further explain the Fund. Paul joined PMA in 2011 and is responsible for marketing PMA Securities' Cash Flow Management programs throughout the state of Iowa. He earned his Bachelor of Science from Iowa State University and holds series 50, 52, and 63 securities licenses.

May Board Minutes Summary

ISAC Board of Directors Summary of Minutes - Wednesday, May 3

ISAC President Brian Gardner called the meeting to order and led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of the February 22, 2023, ISAC Board of Directors meeting and March 9, 2023, ISAC Spring Conference General Session were approved unanimously.

President Gardner recessed the ISAC Board and reconvened following adjournment of the ISAC Group Benefit Program Board meeting.

Brad Holtan gave highlights of the ISAC financial report dated March 31, 2023. The inclusion of the new lease standards on the balance sheet was described. The ISAC Technology Service Bureau didn't have any funding in FY 2023 so the amount due to ISAC will likely need to be written off with board approval during the June meeting. The financial report was accepted unanimously.

Brad reviewed the ISAC investment report dated March 31, 2023. ISAC holds a Signature Bank CD, which is one of the banks that went under, so we are waiting to see what happens. The investment report was accepted unanimously.

Brad reported that the investment policy for ISAC Unemployment Program needed to be updated as well to mirror the policy of the Health Fund. All 28Es will be updated. The ISAC Unemployment Program Investment Policy was approved unanimously.

Brad updated the Board on the funding for the ISAC Technology Service Bureau. ISAC has been working on legislation for an appropriation to fund the program. Legislation including FY 2024 funding of \$324,000 is going to the Governor for signature. It is hoped that the same amount of funding will be appropriated over the next couple of years as the program gets up and running. The audit will likely need to be amended so that CSN and the ISAC Tech Service Bureau are separate. Their funds are held separately.

Kristi Harshbarger gave an update on legal matters.

Beth Manley reviewed and the Board unanimously approved the ISAC Business Continuity Plan. The project was completed with input from all ISAC departments and is a plan that outlines what occurs in the event of a disaster.

Katie Cook and Bill Peterson gave a history and update on the ISAC Office Reconstruction Project. Included in the Board materials are the remodel proposal and specifications received from Knapp Properties. A demo and floor plan were also included. The lease renewal options for consideration were reviewed including their future impacts on the cost of leasing. The 10-year lease option was approved for the ISAC Office Reconstruction Project.

Bill reported that the 2023 NACo Annual Conference will be held in Austin from July 21-24. He reported that Iowa-specific events as well as credentials information will be shared with attendees in closer proximity of the conference.

Bill recommended and the Board approved that the ISAC Board Travel Expense Policy related to NACo Conferences be updated to provide reimbursement in the amount equal to the early-bird registration rate instead of \$400.

Bill asked those interested in joining a NACo steering committee to contact him.

Kelsey Sebern reported that the ISAC Spring Conference was a success with great attendance and feedback from members. Jacy Ripperger gave an update on vendor participation in the conference and the ISAC Preferred Vendor Program.

May Board Minutes Summary

Brad and Jacy updated the Board on the registrations and sponsorships for the 18th Annual ISAC Scholarship Golf Fundraiser being held July 12 at Toad Valley Golf Course in Pleasant Hill.

Kelsey reviewed and recommended for approval the 2023 ISAC Annual Conference agenda. The Board approved the agenda unanimously.

President Gardner gave an overview of planning that has taken place related to the ISAC Board Retreat that will be held in Linn County on September 20-22, 2023.

Kristi highlighted the agenda and plans for the Opioid Settlement Funds Strategic Planning Summit that the Opioid Response Network (ORN) and ISAC are jointly hosting in Des Moines on May 24-25. Bill explained the budget process.

Kelsey reviewed and recommended for approval the 2025 ISAC Spring (March 11-14) and Annual Conference (August 18-22) contracts for the Hilton Des Moines and Iowa Events Center. The contracts were approved unanimously.

Jamie Cashman and Lucas Beenken gave an overview of the 2023 legislative session. They reported that the session is expected to end soon.

Jamie reviewed the 2023-2024 ISAC legislative timeline related to the approval of the 2024 ISAC Legislative Priorities.

Policy Process for 2024

legislative package at its November board meeting. The board has the final say on what proposals are included and what the top priorities will be, but oftentimes the recommendations they receive play heavily into reaching that final package. The board also has the discretion to add objectives and/or policy statements if an issue not already covered comes up either after the LPC has finished its recommendations or in the form of a bill being introduced during the legislative session.

After the board of directors finalizes the legislative package, the government relations team works with affiliates and legislators to get bills drafted that will address the problem identified with the solution proposed. The bills are then navigated through the subcommittee, committee, and floor debate process in each chamber in hopes of reaching the governor's desk for final approval.

But the whole process starts with ideas from our members. Most affiliates have reviewed proposals for 2024, but there's still time to submit individual proposals to the LPC by the August 1 deadline. For the Legislative Policy Request Form please visit www.iowacounties.org/legislative/legislative-policy-committee/ and submit your idea(s) as soon as possible. Thank you for your participation in the ISAC legislative policy development process.

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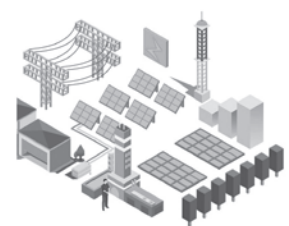
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Solar energy holds great potential as part of Iowa's renewable energy portfolio. Land use and zoning related issues are critical and policies are being developed and intensely debated.



Contact: Hongli Feng (hffeng@iastate.edu), Elizabeth Hoffman (bhoffman@iastate.edu), or Luke Seaberg (seaberg@iastate.edu) at Iowa State University.



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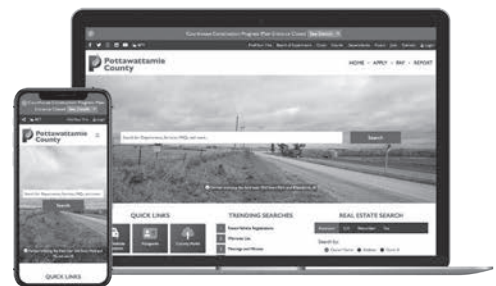
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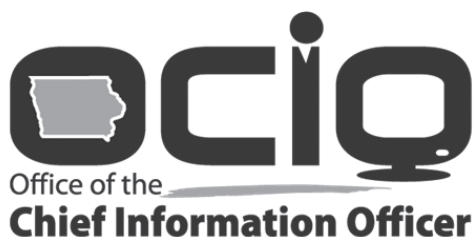
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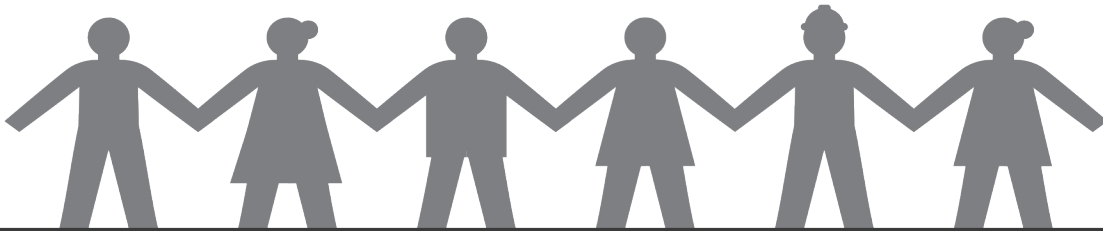
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2023 Calendar

July 2023

- 12 ISAC Education Foundation Golf Fundraiser
(Toad Valley Golf Course, Pleasant Hill)
- 21-24 NACo Annual Conference
(Travis County/Austin, Texas)

August 2023

- 22 LPC Retreat
(Veterans Memorial Community Choice Credit
Union Convention Center, Des Moines)
- 23-25 ISAC Annual Conference
(Veterans Memorial Community Choice Credit
Union Convention Center, Des Moines)

September 2023

- 19-22 ISSDA Fall Jail School
(Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport)
- 20-22 ISAC Board of Directors Retreat
(Linn County, Iowa)

October 2023

- 8-11 Assessors Fall Conference
(Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport)
- 19-20 Treasurers October Leadership Conference
(Cedar Falls, Iowa)

November 2023

- 15 ISAC Board of Directors Meeting
(ISAC Office)

December 2023

- 12-15 ISSDA Winter School
(Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport)
- 13-15 77th Annual Iowa County Engineers Conference
(Veterans Memorial Community Choice Credit
Union Convention Center, Des Moines)

If you have any questions about the meetings listed above or would like to add an affiliate meeting to the ISAC calendar, please contact Kelsey Sebern at ksebern@iowacounties.org.

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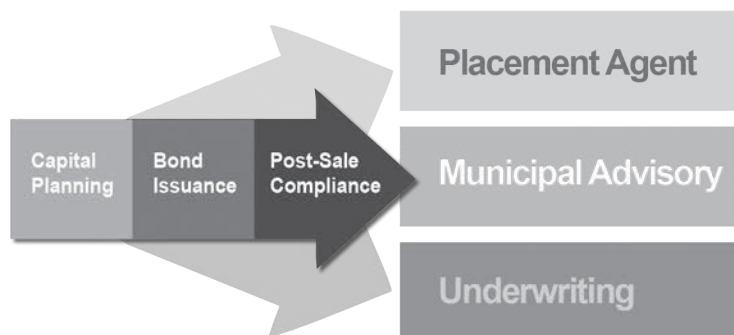
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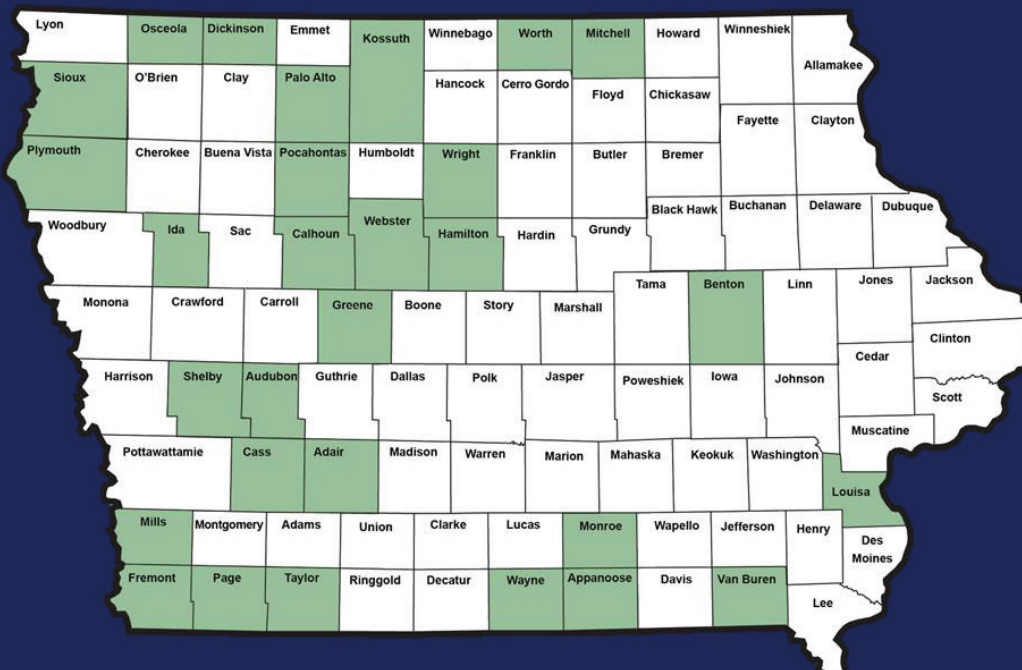
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