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### **I-Jobs Board of Directors Holds First Meeting**

*Group sets tentative timeline to begin distributing \$165 million in funds for disaster recovery and flood mitigation*

DES MOINES – The I-Jobs Board of Directors held its first meeting yesterday in Des Moines where it created a tentative timeline to award millions of dollars intended to spur job creation and aid flood recovery and mitigation efforts around the state.

During its recent session, the Iowa Legislature approved the I-Jobs program, which provides approximately \$830 million to address five key areas of unmet infrastructure needs across the state, including transportation projects, water infrastructure, broadband technology, housing and alternative energy infrastructure.

The I-Jobs Board is specifically tasked with awarding approximately \$165 million of funds from the I-Jobs program. Of that amount, \$46.5 million is earmarked for projects in Linn County, Cedar Rapids, Palo, Elkader and Charles City. The remaining \$118.5 million will be available on a competitive basis to support the construction of projects relating to disaster relief, mitigation and local infrastructure.

Governor Culver joined the meeting by phone from Quebec where he is attending the North America's SuperCorridor Coalition Conference. Governor Culver thanked the Board members for their service and challenged them to work quickly so the state and its residents can begin to realize I-Jobs' economic benefits.

“Sadly, communities around Iowa will be working to recover from last year’s devastating floods and storms for years to come,” Governor Culver said. “But funds from the I-Jobs program will expedite this process by providing vital resources for disaster recovery and mitigation. Yesterday’s meeting means funds from the I-Jobs program are one step closer to reaching Iowa communities where they will provide jobs and boost the economy.”

At yesterday’s meeting, the I-Jobs Board reviewed a draft of the rules that will govern the program. The rules are available at [www.IowaFinanceAuthority.gov](http://www.IowaFinanceAuthority.gov) where the public can make comments. After the rules are approved, they will serve as a guide for the creation of the I-Jobs application.

The I-Jobs Board also established the tentative timeline shown below.

I-Jobs Board chair Jeff Pomeranz of West Des Moines said the Board is committed to taking quick action so that I-Jobs funds can reach Iowa communities quickly. “In addition to working quickly, the Board is also exercising caution to ensure that these funds are utilized in the most efficient and effective manner possible,” he said.

June 15	Telephonic Board Meeting
June 24	Review Committee Meeting (Location: TBD)
June 15-28	Regional Meetings (Location: TBD)
June 29	Board Meeting (Location: Cedar Rapids)
July 1	Application available
August 3	First round of applications due
August 14	Review Committee Meeting (Location: TBD)
August 31	Board Meeting (Location: TBD)

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