

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

HON. KIM REYNOLDS  
GOVERNOR

HON. PAUL D. PATE  
SECRETARY OF STATE

HON. ROB SAND  
AUDITOR OF STATE

HON. ROBY SMITH  
TREASURER OF STATE

HON. MIKE NAIG  
SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE



## Executive Council of Iowa

CAPITOL BUILDING  
DES MOINES, IOWA 50319  
PHONE: 515 281-5368  
FAX: 515 281-7562

May 4, 2026

Accounting Department  
Office of the Treasurer  
Lucas Building  
321 E 12<sup>th</sup> Street  
Des Moines, IA, 50319

The Executive Council, in a meeting held on this date, approved Iowa Communications Network's request for an emergency allocation of \$18,908.84, subject to audit of actual invoices and supporting documentation and demonstration that no costs covered by the maintenance contract have been included. On February 11, 2026, cable along Indian Avenue, between Holstein and Ida Grove in Ida County was damaged by rodent chewing. Request was to cover repair costs.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF IOWA

*Kristi Onstot*

Kristi Onstot  
Executive Secretary

cc: Ryan Mulhall, Executive Director, ICN  
Kammy McHone, Finance Division, ICN  
Dave Augspurger, Operations Division, ICN  
Heather Hackbarth, Department of Management  
Matt Bender, Department of Management

AOS Claim # 4248  
TOS Job # \_\_\_\_\_



**OFFICE OF AUDITOR OF STATE**  
STATE OF IOWA

State Capitol Building  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0004

Telephone (515) 281-5834  
www.auditor.iowa.gov

Rob Sand  
Auditor of State

April 8, 2026

Kristi Onstot  
Executive Council  
L O C A L

Subject: Damaged Cable Due to Rodent Chew Along Indian Avenue, Between Holstein  
and Ida Grove in Ida County on February 11, 2026  
Iowa Communications Network (ICN)  
Claim dated March 25, 2026  
AOS Claim ID: 4248

In accordance with Executive Council policy, we have examined the claim for 29C.20 funds for the above-mentioned damage. It is our conclusion that the above-mentioned damage incurred by the Iowa Communications Network (ICN) is covered by Chapter 29C.20 of the Code of Iowa. The amount requested may include costs that will be covered by a monthly maintenance contract for technician services that are not additional expenses to ICN. The actual claim for reimbursement should only be for expenses that exceed the technician hours per the maintenance agreement.

Therefore, we recommend an Executive Council allocation for the requested amount of \$18,908.84, subject to audit of actual invoices and supporting documentation and demonstration that no costs covered by the maintenance contract have been included.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian R. Brustkern".

Brian R. Brustkern, CPA  
Deputy Auditor of State

cc: Ryan Mulhall, Executive Director, ICN  
Kammy McHone, Finance Division, ICN  
Dave Augspurger, Operations Division, ICN  
Heather Hackbarth, Department of Management

March 25, 2026

Ms. Kristi Onstot  
Executive Secretary  
Executive Council of Iowa  
State Capitol

Re: Emergency Allocations of Funds

Dear Ms. Onstot,

On or about February 11, 2026 the Iowa Communications Network (ICN) received physical damage to ICN Communications equipment in Des Moines, Iowa. An email was sent to the Office of the Auditor of State and the Executive Council. This letter represents a claim for \$18,908.84 in accordance with Chapter 29C.20 of the Code of Iowa for an emergency allocation of funds to repair damages sustained. Paid invoices will be included upon completion of repairs.

It was determined ICN equipment was exposed due possible rodent chew along Indian Avenue, between Holstein and Ida Grove, IA in Ida County. Enclosed are the damage assessment and cost estimate to restore that damaged equipment to normal operating condition.

If you have any questions regarding this claim, please call my office at 515-725-4666.

Sincerely,



Ryan Mulhall  
Executive Director

cc: Office of Auditor of State (Tammy Hollingsworth)  
ICN Operations Division (Dave Augspurger)  
ICN Finance Division (Kammy McHone)



March 24, 2026

Estimate for ICN Fiber Cable Damage Repair: Outside Plant Log #47260107

This estimate is for the repair of a damaged fiber optic cable along Indian Ave, south of 190<sup>th</sup>, in Ida County. Due to the inability to locate the cable in this area, technicians suspect damage to the sheath leading to grounding out the signal. Once frost is out of the ground, excavation will commence to expose the cable and determine cause and next steps. At this time, it is suspected to rodent chew activity. Upon verification, ICN will proceed with replacing a section of cable through the area. If cause is not determined to be rodent-related, the claim will be rescinded. The Executive Council was notified of the ICN's intent to submit this as a claim for reimbursement on February 12, 2026.

Likely restoration will require placement of approximately 500 feet of new conduit and cable, two new maintenance splices, and material and labor to install and cut over to new cable.

*ESTIMATED COSTS:*

Contracted Labor and Materials	
Construction Labor	\$13,105.00
Construction Material	\$2,524.48
Splicing Labor	\$2,930.00
ICN provided Materials	\$349.36
 TOTAL:	 \$18,908.84

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Respectfully,

**Dave Augspurger**  
**Sr Telecom Specialist | OSP Lead**  
Outside Plant  
Iowa Communications Network  
400 East 14th Street, Des Moines, IA 50319  
515-725-4604 office  
515-229-2013 cell  
[daugspurger@icn.state.ia.us](mailto:daugspurger@icn.state.ia.us)  
[icn.iowa.gov](http://icn.iowa.gov)

**ESTIMATE**

<b>PROJECT</b>	Locate issue along Indian Ave south of 190th	<b>COUNTY</b>	Ida
<b>OSP LOG #</b>	47260107	<b>INC/PRB</b>	INC0058551
<b>LINK ID(S)</b>	1209	<b>FIBER CT</b>	4

<b>Contracted Labor and Materials</b>	
Construction Labor	\$13,105.00
Construction Materials	\$2,524.48
Splicing Labor	\$2,930.00
ICN Provided Materials	\$349.36
Miscellaneous	\$0.00
Engineering Design	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$18,908.84</b>

**VENDOR CONSTRUCTION**

CATEGORY	ITEM	UNIT	RATE	QTY	SUBTOTAL
Horizontal Boring	Rural 1 ea 1.25" conduit	LF	\$10.00	500	\$5,000.00
Handhole Placement	Rural Std 24x36x30	EA	\$600.00	2	\$1,200.00
Fiber Installation	New Duct Rural	LF	\$1.25	700	\$875.00
Expose/Lower Cable	Rural Expose Existing Live Cable	LF	\$25.00	200	\$5,000.00
Misc	Place Warning Marker-Rural	EA	\$35.00	2	\$70.00
Misc	Mobilization	LS	\$750.00	1	\$750.00
Misc	Mobilization mileage adder	MILES	\$3.00	70	\$210.00
<b>VENDOR CONSTRUCTION SUBTOTAL:</b>					<b>\$13,105.00</b>

**SPLICING LABOR**

CATEGORY	ITEM	UNIT	UNIT RATE	QTY	SUBTOTAL
Splicing labor	Splicing Mobilization	LS	\$1,250.00	1	\$1,250.00
Splicing labor	Prep Splice Closure	EA	\$350.00	2	\$700.00
Splicing labor	Fusion Splicing	Splicing	\$60.00	8	\$480.00
Splicing labor	Off Hours Charge	LS	\$500.00	1	\$500.00
<b>SPLICING LABOR SUBTOTAL:</b>					<b>\$2,930.00</b>

**ICN PROVIDED MATERIALS**

CATEGORY	ITEM	UNIT	QTY	UNIT RATE	SUBTOTAL	PART #
Locate Facilities	Triview Warning Marker 78in	EA	2	\$16.71	\$33.42	TVFL7800
Splice Closure	*450A Splice Closure (w/ugs)	EA	2	\$143.38	\$286.76	FOSC450-A44-NT-0-A1V
Splice Tray	*A Tray 12-pos	EA	2	\$12.01	\$24.02	497817-000
Shield Bond Connector	*Shield Bond Connector	EA	4	\$1.29	\$5.16	4460-D
<b>ICN PROVIDED MATERIALS SUBTOTAL:</b>					<b>\$349.36</b>	

**VENDOR PROVIDED MATERIALS**

CATEGORY	ITEM	UNIT	QTY	UNIT RATE	SUBTOTAL	NOTES
Duct	1.25" Orange HPDE Duct	LFT	500	\$0.68	\$340.00	13.5
Fiber Cable	24F Armored SM Cable	LFT	700	\$0.52	\$364.00	0
Handholes	24x36x30 Tier 15 HH w/lid	EA	2	\$910.24	\$1,820.48	0
<b>VENDOR PROVIDED MATERIALS SUBTOTAL:</b>					<b>\$2,524.48</b>	

**ENGINEERING DESIGN**

CATEGORY	ITEM	UNIT	QTY	UNIT RATE	SUBTOTAL
<b>ENGINEERING DESIGN SUBTOTAL:</b>					<b>\$0.00</b>

**MISCELLANEOUS**

CATEGORY	ITEM	UNIT	QTY	UNIT RATE	SUBTOTAL	NOTES
<b>MISCELLANEOUS SUBTOTAL:</b>					<b>\$0.00</b>	



McHone, Kammy &lt;kammy.mchone@iowa.gov&gt;

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**Potential rodent damage - Ida County - 190th St & Indian Ave - 47260107**

2 messages

**Augspurger, Dave** <daugspurger@icn.state.ia.us>

Thu, Feb 12, 2026 at 8:39 AM

To: "Harris, Victoria [ICN]" <victoria.harris@iowa.gov>, Kammy Mchone <kammy.mchone@icn.state.ia.us>, Executive Council group email <ExecutiveCouncil@tos.iowa.gov>, "Dana [AOS] Davis" <Dana.Davis@aos.iowa.gov>, Scott Pappan <scott.pappan@icn.state.ia.us>, "Hollingsworth, Tammy [AOS]" <tammy.hollingsworth@aos.iowa.gov>, Ryan Mulhall <ryan.mulhall@icn.state.ia.us>, Connor Kuehl <connor.kuehl@icn.state.ia.us>

Good morning,

Field technicians were troubleshooting a locate issue along Indian Ave in Ida County, between Holstein and Ida Grove yesterday. They isolate the issue and will need to engage an excavator to expose the cable and determine the cause. At this time, we are unsure but suspect either rodent damage or physical strike from another vendor installation. If the cause is determined to be a rodent chew, the ICN would like to submit this as a claim for reimbursement for damages due to natural causes. Please let me know of any questions or concerns.

Respectfully,

**Dave Augspurger****Sr Telecom Specialist | OSP Lead**

Outside Plant

Iowa Communications Network

400 East 14th Street, Des Moines, IA 50319

515-725-4604 office

515-229-2013 cell

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**Iowa Communications  
Network**

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Respectfully,

**Dave Augspurger**

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