

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

December 2, 2024

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 the Department of Natural Resources' request for an emergency allocation in the amount of \$40,083.00, subject to an audit of actual invoices. On June 26, 2024, a septic tank at Wapsipinicon State Park in Jones County was damaged due to extensive drought conditions. Request was to cover repair costs.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF IOWA

*Kristi Onstot*

Kristi Onstot  
Executive Secretary

cc: Kayla Lyon, Director, Department of Natural Resources  
Sherry Arntzen, Bureau Chief, State Parks, Forests and Preserves Bureau, Department of Natural Resources  
Kara Bryant, Federal Aid Coordinator, Department of Natural Resources  
Matt Bender, Department of Management  
Heather Hackbarth, Department of Management

AOS Claim # 3864  
TOS Job # \_\_\_\_\_



OFFICE OF AUDITOR OF STATE  
STATE OF IOWA

Rob Sand  
Auditor of State

State Capitol Building  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0004  
Telephone (515) 281-5834

November 4, 2024

Kristi Onstot  
Executive Council  
L O C A L

Subject: Septic Tank Damages at Wapsipinicon State Park in Jones County Due to  
Extensive Drought Conditions on June 26, 2024  
Department of Natural Resources  
Claim dated September 16, 2024  
AOS Claim ID: 3864

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 damage incurred by the Department of Natural Resources is covered by Chapter 29C.20 of the Code of Iowa. The Department requested an allocation of \$41,000.00; however, the support provided for the estimate totaled \$40,083.00. Therefore, we recommend an Executive Council allocation in the amount of \$40,083.00, subject to an audit of actual invoices.

Sincerely,

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

Brian R. Brustkern, CPA  
Deputy Auditor of State

cc: Sherry Arntzen, Bureau Chief, Parks, Forests and Preserves Bureau, Department of  
Natural Resources  
Kara Bryant, Budget and Finance, Department of Natural Resources  
Heather Hackbarth, Department of Management

September 16, 2024

Victoria Newton  
Executive Council  
State Capitol  
LOCAL

Tammy Hollingsworth  
Auditor's Office  
Lucas Building  
LOCAL

RE: Drought Damage at Wapsipinicon State Park

Dear Victoria and Tammy:

On Wednesday, June 26, 2024, due to the extensive drought conditions in the state for the past several years damage occurred at Wapsipinicon State Park in Jones County. Elizabeth Thacker sent an initial e-mail notification of the damages on June 26, 2024. The septic system at the playground restroom was damaged. A cost estimate of \$41,000.00 is attached.

The supporting documents include:

- E-mail notification to the Executive Council and the Auditor's Office
- Estimated cost of repair due to the drought damage

This information is being submitted to the Executive Council as a request for allocation of \$41,000.00 for AOS ID #3864.

I thank you and the Executive Council members for your time and consideration in reviewing this material. Please inform me if it would be advantageous to participate in the Executive Council meeting in order to answer any questions.

Sincerely,

Sherry L. Arntzen, Bureau Chief  
Parks, Forests and Preserves Bureau

cc: Kara Bryant, DNR Budget and Finance

Attachments: 2





Moore, Seth &lt;seth.moore@dnr.iowa.gov&gt;

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**Re: Question on Eligibility**

1 message

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**Moore, Seth** <seth.moore@dnr.iowa.gov>  
To: Seth Moore <seth.moore@dnr.iowa.gov>

Wed, Sep 11, 2024 at 3:22 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Tammy Hollingsworth <Tammy.Hollingsworth@aos.iowa.gov>  
**Date:** Tue, Jul 2, 2024 at 4:45 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Question on Eligibility  
**To:** Thacker, Elizabeth <elizabeth.thacker@dnr.iowa.gov>  
**Cc:** ExecutiveCouncil [TOS] <ExecutiveCouncil@tos.iowa.gov>

Elizabeth,

I am going to go ahead and assign this as AOS Claim #3864. At this point it would appear these damages would be covered; however, please let me know if you come to another conclusion on the cause of the damages/issues.

Tammy

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**From:** Thacker, Elizabeth <elizabeth.thacker@dnr.iowa.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 27, 2024 9:13 AM  
**To:** Tammy Hollingsworth <Tammy.Hollingsworth@AOS.IOWA.GOV>  
**Cc:** ExecutiveCouncil [TOS] <ExecutiveCouncil@tos.iowa.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Question on Eligibility

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of AOS. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Tammy,

Thank you for the information. That is very helpful.

**Elizabeth Thacker****Guest Services and Reservation System Assistant**

State Parks, Forests, and Preserves Bureau

Iowa Department of Natural Resources

6200 Park Ave, Ste 200  
Des Moines, IA 50321

515-444-9164

[elizabeth.thacker@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:elizabeth.thacker@dnr.iowa.gov)

[www.iowadnr.gov](http://www.iowadnr.gov)



On Thu, Jun 27, 2024 at 9:10 AM Tammy Hollingsworth <[Tammy.Hollingsworth@aos.iowa.gov](mailto:Tammy.Hollingsworth@aos.iowa.gov)> wrote:

Elizabeth,

I believe the ultimate determination would come down to the cause of the damage. If the damages are not due to normal wear and tear and are due to the drought conditions, then it would be covered under 29C.20. If not due to the drought conditions that septic tank's useful life would have been much longer, not expected to be needing replaced so soon, then I would say it would be covered.

Tammy

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**From:** Thacker, Elizabeth <[elizabeth.thacker@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:elizabeth.thacker@dnr.iowa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 26, 2024 3:20 PM  
**To:** Tammy Hollingsworth <[Tammy.Hollingsworth@AOS.IOWA.GOV](mailto:Tammy.Hollingsworth@AOS.IOWA.GOV)>; ExecutiveCouncil [TOS] <[ExecutiveCouncil@tos.iowa.gov](mailto:ExecutiveCouncil@tos.iowa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Question on Eligibility

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of AOS. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good Afternoon,

We have a question regarding submitting damage associated with a septic tank.

**Background:**

After staff inspected the septic tank, we (Park Planner and Facilities Engineer) came to the conclusion that after 4 years of drought things have shifted enough, and the soil profile has changed and is now allowing infiltration. So now, after every rain, it collects all the groundwater in the area, filling the septic tank to clear up, which then floods the restrooms. There is no way to fix this issue other than a complete replacement. \$30,000 to \$40,000. I don't know if this would be in the EC realm or not.

**Question:**

- We are not sure if this qualifies.

According to 29C.20, moneys in the contingency fund may be expended for the following purposes:

(2) Repairing, rebuilding, or restoring state property injured, destroyed, or lost by fire, storm, theft, or unavoidable cause.

Thank you in advance,

**Elizabeth Thacker**

**Guest Services and Reservation System Assistant**

State Parks, Forests, and Preserves Bureau

Iowa Department of Natural Resources

6200 Park Ave, Ste 200  
Des Moines, IA 50321

515-444-9164

[elizabeth.thacker@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:elizabeth.thacker@dnr.iowa.gov)

[www.iowadnr.gov](http://www.iowadnr.gov)



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**ESTIMATE OF PROBABLE COSTS**

25-06-53-01

Wapsipinicon

Lower Playground bathroom septic system  
replacement

9/6/2024

Mark Moeller

		Full Project			
Item No.	Description	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Cost
1	Mobilization	1	LS	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
2	Precast Septic Tank	1	Each	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
3	Leach Field	1	LS	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00
4	Demo, Clearing, Grubbing	1	LS	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
5	Gravel Bedding Material	1	LS	\$2,000.00	\$2,500.00
6	Piping and Fittings	1	LS	\$2,000.00	\$2,500.00
7	Site Restoration and Seeding	1	LS	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
8	Permitting	1	LS	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
9	Consulting-Septic Design and Layout	1		\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
10	Archeological Survey	1		\$2,583.00	\$2,583.00
				<b>Total</b>	<b>\$40,083.00</b>
				<b>Engineer's Estimate</b>	<b>\$41,000.00</b>