



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

September 22, 2025

Kristi Onstot
Executive Council
L O C A L

Subject: Damages to Drywall at Fort Atkinson Museum Due to Honey Bees
on July 8, 2025
Department of Natural Resources
Claim dated September 5, 2025
AOS Claim ID: 4104

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 Department of Natural Resources is covered by Chapter 29C.20 of the Code of Iowa. Therefore, we recommend an Executive Council allocation in the amount of \$4,869.85, 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 5, 2025

Victoria Newton
Executive Council
State Capitol
LOCAL

Tammy Hollingsworth
Auditor's Office
Lucas Building
LOCAL

RE: Bee Damage at Fort Atkinson State Preserve

Dear Victoria and Tammy:

On Tuesday, July 8, 2025, it was discovered that a colony of honey bees had established a hive in the Fort Atkinson Museum at Fort Atkinson State Preserve. Seth Moore sent an initial e-mail notification of the damages on July 9, 2025. A cost estimate of \$4,869.85 is attached.

The supporting documents include:

- Cost estimate for repairs

This information is being submitted to the Executive Council as a request for allocation of \$4,869.85 for AOS ID #4104.

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: 1

ESTIMATE OF PROBABLE COSTS				
DNR Project #				
Project Location		Fort Atkinson State Preserve-Museum		
Project Description		Bee Damage Remediation		
Date		9/4/2025		
		Full Project		
Item No.	Description	Quantity	Cost	
1	Removal of Bee Colony	1	\$986.10	
2	Replacement of wall	1	\$883.75	
3	Bee proofing measures	1	\$3,000.00	
			\$4,869.85	