EMERGENCY STEAM LINE REPAIR BETWEEN UIHC AND MRF (SUI)

Action Requested: Recommend ratification of the Executive Director’s actions related to the Emergency Steam Line Repair between UIHC and MRF (Medical Research Facility) project at the University of Iowa.

Executive Summary: On September 26, 2013, the Board Office was informed of an emergency situation related to a section of the University of Iowa steam system located between UIHC and MRF. According to the University, the buried steam line is causing humidity problems inside the basement area of MRF as the steam is finding its way inside the building from underground. This steam line supplies process steam to UIHC kitchens and can not be down for long periods of time.

Due to the potential for serious losses, Executive Director Donley, on September 30, 2013, made a finding of the need to institute emergency procedures under Iowa Code subsection 262.34.2 for the emergency repair of the steam system located between UIHC and MRF. On September 30, 2013, Executive Director Donley approved a project description and budget in the amount of $349,262 and sole source construction contract award to Carter & Associates of Coralville, IA for the emergency steam repairs. The firm has performed well on similar projects and has demonstrated its abilities to coordinate with work in the vicinity of UIHC.

The project is being funded by utilities enterprise renewal and improvement funds. Board ratification of Executive Director’s actions for the project is required by Iowa Code.

Background: In 2009, the following subsection (subsection 2) was added to Iowa Code 262.34.

Notwithstanding subsection 1, when a delay in undertaking a repair, restoration, or reconstruction of a public improvement might cause serious loss or injury at an institution under the control of the state board of regents, the executive director of the board, or the board, shall make a finding of the need to institute emergency procedures under this subsection. The board by separate action shall approve the emergency procedures to be employed.