

## CONTINUING APPROPRIATION AUTHORITY POLICY

Continuing appropriation authority is provided in state law for certain operating expenditures. In addition to that specific statutory authority, the Board provides guidance as to approved expenditures outlined below.

### **Unclaimed Property.**

Unclaimed property expenses as outlined in N.D.C.C. § 47-30.1-23 may be paid under continuing appropriation authority. Those expenses include payment of claims, service charges for address verification and updates, advertising costs, audit services, legal costs, computer software, and outreach efforts.

### **Grant Land, Non-Grant Land, Mineral Leases, and Investments.**

N.D.C.C. §§ 15-03-16, 15-04-24, 15-05-19, 15-06-22, 15-07-22, and 15-08-04 permit certain expenditures under continuing appropriation and appropriate annually the expenses determined by the Board as necessary to manage, preserve, and enhance the value of the trust land and mineral assets.

Those expenditures specifically authorized by the Board under continuing appropriation authority include:

1. Equipment ~~technology service fees and licenses~~, and travel expenses for Surface Division staff and temporary field inspectors, and temporary field inspectors' salaries.
2. Advertising surface and mineral lease auctions. N.D.C.C. § 15-04-09 requires the Board to publish multiple notices of surface and mineral leases auctions. Advertising of the lease auctions are done to ensure the trusts receive competitive bids to enhance the trusts' value.
3. Legal expenditures that are incurred by a specific trust or trusts to maintain their value and integrity.
4. Costs of hiring independent contract firms to perform accounting, audit, compliance review, or collection efforts to ensure the proper payment of oil, gas, coal or other mineral royalty.
5. ~~Technology service fees and licenses associated with management of investments by Department staff.~~ Equipment and travel expenses for Minerals Division staff.
- 5.6. Software acquisition, development, maintenance costs, service fees, and licenses fees necessary to effectively manage, protect, and secure the assets managed by the Board.

Effective date: May 26, 2011 (effective July 1, 2011)

Revised: February 25, 2016; ~~July~~ July 29~~5~~, 2020 (effective July 1, 2020)