

**RESOLUTION
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Josh Smith, County Administrator
INITIATED BY



Josh Smith
DRAFTED BY

Board of Health
SUBMITTED BY

December 30, 2020
DATE DRAFTED

**Authorizing COVID-19 Response Funding and
Amending the 2021 Budget**

1 **WHEREAS**, 2020 the federal government provided funding to state governments through the CARES
2 Act, a portion of which was subsequently provided to local governments through the Governor’s Routes
3 to Recovery program and other grant programs to support response to COVID-19; and,
4

5 **WHEREAS**, in its most recent relief package, the federal government has not provided any additional
6 COVID-19 response funds for state or local governments; and,
7

8 **WHEREAS**, the Public Health Department will be required to continue its current COVID-19 response
9 efforts, including contact tracing and disease investigation, outbreak management, public education and
10 outreach, data management, advising schools, long-term care facilities, and other organizations, and
11 responding to inquiries from the media, the public, and community partners; and
12

13 **WHEREAS**, in addition, in 2021 Rock County will be responding to the pandemic in areas that include
14 community testing, coordination of vaccine distribution, public education and messaging on vaccine
15 safety, continued PPE purchases for first responders and direct care staff, and other areas; and,
16

17 **WHEREAS**, funding for additional staff positions will be necessary to support the Public Health
18 Department, the Emergency Operations Center, and the community’s response, particularly as it relates to
19 vaccine coordination, vaccine administration, and administrative and support functions; and
20

21 **WHEREAS**, estimated expenditures for the community testing site through March 10, 2021, include
22 approximately \$47,000 for food for the Wisconsin National Guard and other personnel on site, and
23 \$19,000 for contracted staff through Professional Services Group (PSG) to support operations; and
24

25 **WHEREAS**, without additional federal funding, Rock County will be required to expend its own funding
26 to support these costs, and providing explicit budget authority in a separate cost center will expedite
27 expenditures when needed, allow for increased flexibility, and provide better tracking and transparency.
28

29 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled
30 this 14th day of January, 2021 does hereby authorize additional funding for COVID-19
31 response in the amount of \$250,000 and amend the 2021 Budget as follows:
32

| <u>Account/Description</u> | <u>Budget</u> <u>2021</u> | <u>Increase</u> <u>(Decrease)</u> | <u>Amended</u> <u>Budget</u> |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <u>Source of Funds</u> | | | |
| 21-2590-1000-46400 | -0- | \$250,000 | \$250,000 |
| General Fund | | | |
| <u>Use of Funds</u> | | | |
| 21-2590-1000-61108 | -0- | \$30,000 | \$30,000 |
| Seasonal Wages | | | |
| 21-2590-1000-61400 | -0- | \$2,295 | \$2,295 |
| FICA | | | |
| 21-2590-1000-62119 | -0- | \$100,000 | \$100,000 |
| Other Contracted Services | | | |
| 21-2590-1000-64604 | -0- | \$117,705 | \$117,705 |
| Program Expense | | | |

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Respectfully submitted,

BOARD OF HEALTH

/s/Supervisor Lou Peer
Supervisor Louis Peer, Chair

absent
Supervisor Doug Wilde

/s/Dr. Connie Winter
Dr. Connie Winter, DDS, Vice Chair

/s/Supervisor Danette Rynes
Supervisor Danette Rynes

/s/Dr. Kaitlyn Meyers
Dr. Kaitlyn Meyers, DVM, MPH

/s/ Debra Kolste
Debra Kolste

/s/Dr. Vijaya Somaraju
Dr. Vijaya Somaraju, MD, MPH, FACP

/s/Supervisor Shirley Williams
Supervisor Shirley Williams

/s/Eric Gresens
Eric Gresens, R.PH

FINANCE COMMITTEE ENDORSEMENT

Reviewed and approved on a vote of 4-0-1

/s/MaryMawhinney 1/14/2021
Mary Mawhinney, Chair Date

FISCAL NOTE:

FY 2020 has not yet been closed out, however, preliminary reports indicate we will end the year with a strong General Fund fund balance. Therefore, by using the \$250,000 for this purpose, the General Fund fund balance will still be within the targeted range per the County's Fund Balance Policy.

/s/ Sherry Oja

Sherry Oja
Finance Director

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Recommended. With the careful management of the undesignated General Fund Balance over the last several years, the County has financial flexibility to provide these needed funds for COVID-19 response. Explicit authorization of continued response funding from the County Board to address the areas noted in the resolution will provide a level of certainty to the County's partners and the public. As one-time expenditures, they would not negatively affect the County's bond rating.

/s/ Josh Smith

Josh Smith
County Administrator

LEGAL NOTE:

The County Board is authorized to take this action pursuant to §§ 59.01 and 59.51, Wis. Stats. As an amendment to the adopted 2021 County Budget, this Resolution requires a 2/3 vote of the entire membership of the County Board pursuant to sec. 65.90(5)(a), Wis. Stats.

/s/ Richard Greenlee

Richard Greenlee
Corporation Counsel

Authorizing COVID-19 Response Funding and Amending the 2021 Budget

Executive Summary

Federal funding to state and local governments through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act will no longer be provided after 2020, and the recent federal COVID-19 relief package did not provide any additional funding to state or local governments. Consequently, Rock County will need to expend its own funding if it is going to continue to respond to COVID-19 in a number of areas.

First, Rock County has taken over management of the COVID-19 community testing site located at Blackhawk Technical College. In addition to using paid County staff and volunteers to staff the site, the County has entered into a contract with Professional Services Group (PSG) to fill the remaining support staff slots as needed. It is estimated up to \$19,000 may be needed for this contract. In addition, the County is responsible for providing lunch, dinner, and snacks for the Wisconsin National Guard members conducting testing as well as volunteers and other staff on site. The County has entered into a contract with Best Events for this purpose at an estimated cost of about \$47,000 through March 10, 2021, when the current approved deployment of the National Guard will end.

Second, while vaccines are distributed, the County will still need to support ongoing public health measures to protect staff and limit the spread of the virus. Personal protective equipment (PPE) and other purchases will continue to be necessary.

Third, efforts related to vaccine distribution and public education will require expenditures. The County's Emergency Operations Center has established a Vaccine Advisory Committee, which is to make recommendations that will support vaccine distribution in Rock County. This group has discussed the need for more support in the areas of coordination and administrative functions, particularly as the State's vaccination plan advances past Phase 1A (health care personnel and residents of long-term care facilities). Approving this funding would provide the County flexibility to create limited-term or project staff to serve in a vaccine coordinator role (or to backfill positions for current staff redeployed to that function) and to provide administrative support, such as will be needed for data entry into the Wisconsin Immunization Registry, as needed.

\$250,000 is requested to support these costs over the next several months. The County Board will be kept apprised of the status of these efforts as they become more defined.