

RESOLUTION

ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Supervisor Sutter
INITIATOR

Supervisor Sutter and
Supervisor Towns
SPONSOR



5/23/2024
DATE
SUBMITTED

Allocating American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds for the Victims of the February 2024 Tornadoes and Amending the 2024 Budget

1 **WHEREAS**, on February 8, 2024, a tornado caused significant damage in Rock County, primarily
2 affecting the residents of the Towns of Porter, Union, Magnolia, and Fulton, and the cities of Evansville
3 and Edgerton; and
4

5 **WHEREAS**, on February 22, 2024, the Rock County Board of Supervisors passed a resolution
6 “Requesting that the Governor and State and Federal Representatives and Agencies Maximize the
7 Availability of Resources to Assist Rock County Residents in Tornado Recovery Efforts ; and
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9 **WHEREAS**, despite this resolution, those affected Rock County residents have not been determined
10 eligible for state or federal support, such as through the Wisconsin Disaster Fund, the Federal
11 Emergency Management Administration (FEMA), and the Small Business Administration (SBA); and
12

13 **WHEREAS**, reported impacts of the tornado include at least one family declaring bankruptcy, several
14 families still not living in their homes, and significant losses in agricultural machinery and outbuildings,
15 which were not initially considered in cost estimates of damage; and
16

17 **WHEREAS**, while private property insurance may cover a portion of these losses, additional resources
18 are needed to help affected residents rebuild their homes and agricultural operations; and
19

20 **WHEREAS**, using ARPA funds to support recovery by these affected families is an eligible and
21 appropriate use of these funds.
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23 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Rock County Board of Supervisors on this 8th day of
24 August, 2024, does hereby reallocate \$625,000.59 in unspent ARPA funds from projects that are
25 estimated to not use the remaining ARPA funds that have been allocated to them to fund natural disaster
26 relief efforts for the victims of the February 2024 tornado; and \$36,000 from Prior Years Sales Tax for
27 Administrative Expenses.
28

29 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Rock County Board of Supervisors directs County Administration
30 to develop a contract with Edgerton Community Outreach to administer these one-time funds and in no
31 way signifies that Rock County can provide this type of relief for future recovery efforts.
32

33 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Rock County Board of Supervisors directs the Public Safety &
34 Justice Committee, in its role as the policy body over the County’s emergency management functions, to
35 work with Edgerton Community Outreach to develop and approve criteria, consistent with ARPA rules,
36 for the awarding of these funds to eligible affected residents.
37

38 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the 2024 Rock County Budget is amended as follows:
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40

Account	Budget	Increase (Decrease)	Amended Budget
Source of Funds 19-1980-0000-42100	\$31,296,919	\$432,680 <u>\$38,616</u>	\$31,729,599

ARPA Revenue			
<u>19-1980-0000-46450</u>	-00	<u>\$36,000</u>	<u>\$36,000</u>
<u>Prior Year Sales Tax</u>			
19-1980-2112-62119	\$139,057	(\$25,546)	\$113,511
Fairgrounds Roof			
19-1980-2161-64604	\$105,000	(\$67,739)	\$37,261
Warming Shelter			
19-1980-2361-62119	\$68,326	(\$12,791)	\$49,990
Beloit-Janesville Express			
<u>19-1980-2181-64622</u>	<u>\$767,430</u>	<u>(\$25,000)</u>	<u>\$742,430</u>
<u>Homeless Matching Grant</u>			
19-1980-2152-62109	\$278,772	(\$35,193)	\$243,579
Homeless Prevention Coord			
19-1980-2101-64604	\$500,000	(\$62,826)	\$437,174
Workforce Development			
19-1980-2901-64320	\$2,030,596	(\$215,573)	\$1,815,023
Small Bus/Non-Profit Grant Prog			
19-1980-6217-67125	\$942,200	(\$36,000) <u>(\$140,878)</u>	\$906,200 <u>\$801,322</u>
Communications Projects			
<u>19-1980-6224-67120</u>	<u>\$833,662</u>	<u>(\$839)</u>	<u>\$832,823</u>
<u>IT Projects</u>			
Use of Funds			
19-1980-6300-64622	-0-	<u>\$857,893</u>	<u>\$857,893</u>
Disaster Relief			
19-1980-6300-63110	-0-	<u>\$36,000</u>	<u>\$36,000</u>
Administrative Expenses			

41
42FISCAL NOTE:

Sufficient funds are projected to remain in the accounts listed above to fund this program.

Sherry Oja
Finance Director

LEGAL NOTE:

The County Board is authorized to take this action pursuant to §§ 59.01 & 59.51, Wis. Stats. As an amendment to the adopted 2024 County Budget, this Resolution requires a 2/3 vote of the entire membership of the County Board pursuant to § 65.90(5)(a), Wis. Stats.

Richard Greenlee
Corporation Counsel

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Disaster relief was added as an eligible use of ARPA funds under the most recent interim final rule that was issued. One example provided is that funds may be used "to provide cash assistance for uninsured or underinsured expenses caused by the disaster such as repair or replacement of personal property and vehicles, or funds for moving and storage, medical, dental, childcare, funeral expenses, behavioral health services, and other miscellaneous items." Other relevant examples include "temporary housing for households who are unable to live in their home following a natural disaster" and "home repairs for uninhabitable primary residences." Given the variety of costs that may have been incurred following the tornado and examples included in the ARPA rule, it would be important for the Public Safety and Justice Committee to develop specific criteria that would be determined to be allowable under the rule.

Josh Smith
County Administrator

Committee Action

Public Safety & Justice Committee

Public Safety & Justice Committee recommended this resolution for approval by a voice vote of 3-2 in which Supervisors Tillman, Knudson, and Whitledge voted “Aye” and Supervisors Schwarz and Rashkin voted “Nay.”

Finance Committee

Supervisor Schwarz moved to amend the agenda in line 20 to insert "one-time" in front of "funds" and add "and in no way signifies that Rock County can provide this type of relief for future recovery efforts" after "funds," second by Supervisor Towns. ADOPTED. Finance Committee recommended this amended resolution for approval by a unanimous voice vote.