

Corrected

WINNEBAGO COUNTY
ARPA Strategy and Outcomes Commission

Minutes

DATE: Tuesday, September 27, 2022
TIME: 3:00 p.m.
PLACE: Winnebago County Administrative Building
112 Otter Ave, Oshkosh WI 54901
Room 120
PRESENT: Jon Doemel
Tom Egan
Morris Cox
Chuck Farrey
Tom Borchart
Bob Poeschl
Tom Belter
Tim Galloway
Mike Collard

ALSO PRESENT: Shanah Zastera
Brian Harbison
Lara Vendola
Tony Daley
Andrea Feitzer

Jon Doemel called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Chuck Farrey, seconded by Bob Poeschl, moved to approve the agenda. Motion carried, with all voting in favor.

1. Public Comments

Deb Martin of Oshkosh, appearing by Zoom, thanked the Commission for the opportunity to participate.

2. Consider resolution authorizing Winnebago County to accept the second tranche of State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds established by the American Rescue Plan Act ("ARPA") in the amount of \$16,695,459, with expenditures to be appropriated at a future time.

Chuck Farrey, seconded by Morris Cox, voted to approve the resolution. Motion carried, with all members voting in favor.

3. Consider resolution recognizing \$33,390,918 in ARPA State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds as replacement of lost revenue for the calendar years 2020, 2021, and 2022, and identifying expenditures incurred for general government services in general fund departments, the Highway Department, and Park View Health Care Center between March 3, 2021 and September 30, 2022 as the use of those funds.

Chuck Farrey, seconded by Morris Cox, moved to approve.

Chuck Farrey asked whether interest accrued on the ARPA funds would be subject to ARPA rules. Mike Collard said he would look into that.

Mike Collard explained the proposed strategy under which the ARPA funds would be treated as replacement of lost revenue, as allowed under rules issued by the U.S. Treasury Department. The County

may then identify general government expenses which occurred after March 3, 2021 as the use of those funds. The funds can then be later moved back to a separate special revenue fund until the eventual uses of the money have been approved by the Board. This strategy will relieve us from further reporting responsibilities to the Treasury Department and the spending would no longer be subject to time limits or other ARPA rules, although the intent of the Commission is to use the funds for purposes within the spirit of ARPA.

Tom Belter expressed a concern that this strategy seemed to be evading regulation, which he was not comfortable with. Morris Cox expressed a concern with a potential audit.

After further discussion the motion carried 6 to 2, with Morris Cox and Tom Belter voting against.

4. Consider resolution transferring \$175,000 from the undesignated general fund balance, to the County Executive's Office for use in contracted services to provide strategic planning and development of a priority-based budgeting system.

Jon Doemel introduced the resolution and explained that this money would eventually be paid by using the ARPA funds. This would cover strategic planning for the County as a whole, and is broader than just planning for use of the ARPA funds. There was no RFP issued yet, and the Commission did not have a breakdown of specific amounts.

Tom Egan, seconded by Morris Cox, moved to postpone to the next Commission meeting. The motion carried 5 to 3, with Bob Poeschl, Jon Doemel, and Chuck Farrey voting against.

5. Discussion of potential County internal uses of ARPA funds, and potential division of funds between County internal uses and community projects.

Jon Doemel presented a list of possible internal County uses for ARPA funds, and asked the Commission to set some guidelines regarding what portion of the funds should be allocated for County uses as opposed to community projects. After some discussion, it was agreed that at the next Commission meeting the administration will present a proposed list of internal County uses amounting to 25% of the total ARPA allocation.

6. Set next meeting date and time.

The commission agreed to meet next on Wednesday October 26 at 2:00 p.m.

Chuck Farrey moved to adjourn, seconded by Bob Poeschl. All members voting in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Submitted by
Mike Collard