



Office of the
**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY
ADMINISTRATOR**

Jason E. Brown, County Administrator
Michael C. Zito, Assistant County Administrator

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Board
of County Commissioners

FROM: Jason E. Brown
County Administrator

DATE: March 4, 2021

SUBJECT: CARES Act – Spending Plan Revisions

BACKGROUND:

On July 7, 2020, the Board of County Commissioners approved the initial CARES Act Spending Plan for the first 25% allocation received from the State, with slight revisions approved on July 14, 2020. Subsequently, on August 18, 2020, the Board approved further revisions to the initial plan. On September 22, 2020 the Board approved allocating an additional \$4,662,600 under the Phase 2 Spending Plan. On November 10, 2020 the Board made other revisions to the plan for an additional \$1,886,518, bringing the total proposed plan to \$13,525,451. On December 1, 2020 the Board approved use of the full \$27,905,330 Indian River County has been allocated. Further revisions to the plan were approved on January 5, 2021, which allocated the \$12,723,176 attributed to public health/public safety payroll to other expenditure categories. On February 17, 2021, Indian River County received the remaining \$15,347,931 in CARES Act funding, and has therefore received the entire \$27,905,330 allocation.

Because the Board elected to draw down any remaining funding via reimbursement for public health/public safety payroll expenses, the Board has discretion on awarding these funds after the initial December 30, 2020 CARES Act deadline. On January 5, 2021, the Board approved time extensions with each agency that had funds remaining to grant them the remainder of the current fiscal year to spend their allocations.

ANALYSIS:

The following table shows the currently approved allocation by category and recommended revisions to the plan. The majority of the proposed spending plan revisions are necessary to fund the vaccination project as well as changes to the Small Business Grant program. Details regarding individual changes are itemized below. These increases are being offset by decreases in line items that no longer need those funds.

CARES Act Spending Plan		
Type of Expense	Approved Allocation	Proposed Reallocation
Municipalities	\$2,335,929	\$0
Constitutional Officer Expenses	\$3,388,573	\$0
BCC Expenses	\$6,895,974	\$405,686
Health Department	\$1,191,541	-\$591,088
Other Healthcare Providers	\$280,280	\$100,000
State Agencies	\$30,000	\$0
Economic Development	\$2,310,000	\$350,000
Community Support	\$10,270,801	-\$89,056
School District of IRC	\$1,026,690	\$0
PH/PS Payroll to be Reallocated	\$175,542	-\$175,542
Total	\$27,905,330	\$0

Municipalities

The City of Sebastian has requested a reallocation of their approved funding. The City has requested the ability to provide additional funding to their specific cost categories such as the Small Business Grant program, Mortgage/Rental Assistance program, direct COVID-19 expenditures, and COVID-19 related sick time while decreasing their contingency allocation. No change in the overall funding of \$1,074,322 is being requested.

BCC Expenses

Adjustments need to be made in the BCC approved expense allocations to fund additional expenses which have arisen that can be partially funded from decreases in previously funded expense categories. This request includes costs related to the vaccination project including payroll expenses for Emergency Information Center (EIC) call-takers, cones and message boards, contracted nursing services, tent rental, as well as hardware and software expenses. Also included in the request are bi-polar ionization units at the Sheriff's Office and Jail, a true-up of temperature taking kiosk expenses, and enhanced cleaning of County buildings through September. The originally projected cost of COVID-19 related leave time is being reduced by \$428,327, based on the latest data, which offsets the requested increases in other categories.

BCC Expenses	Additional Need
COVID-19 Leave Time	-\$428,327
ESD & Vaccination Project	\$726,762
Bi-Polar Ionization	\$55,000
Temperature Taking Kiosks	\$2,251
Enhanced Cleaning of Buildings	\$50,000
Total	\$405,686

Health Department

The Health Department has informed staff that they are in receipt of an allocation from the State that will fund COVID-19 expenditures they've included under their request to the County. Therefore, the Health Department has requested a \$591,088 decrease to their CARES Act allocation. This decrease will be memorialized in a revision to the Health Department's CORE contract that will be brought before the Board as an informational item at a later date.

Other Healthcare Providers

As noted in the January 5, 2021 CARES Act Update, staff informed the BCC that Treasure Coast Community Health (TCCH) may request funding at a later date in the event they assisted with the vaccination project. Since then, TCCH has incurred staff time and other related costs in administering separate vaccination sites to assist the County and Health Department in administering vaccines. An additional \$100,000 is being requested to reimburse TCCH for expenses incurred related to the vaccination project.

Economic Development

As of February 15, 2021, the County had collected enough Small Business Grant applications to fully exhaust the \$2,370,000 (\$2,250,000 IRC and \$120,000 COVB allocation) awarded to the program. In total, 238 small businesses have been, or are in the process of being awarded funding of up to \$10,000 through the program. The County's partners at the Chamber of Commerce and the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) have indicated that there are approximately 35 applications that were received before the application period was closed that were not able to be processed due to lack of funding. Staff believes there are eligible businesses that have not yet applied. This allocation does not provide sufficient funding to reopen the program at this time. Staff recommends allocating an additional \$350,000 towards the Small Business Grant program which will sufficiently fund the remaining applications received.

Community Support

To date, \$60,944 has been spent on Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) kits that were provided to the community. These kits also contained other COVID-19 related supplies such as floor stickers and door signs for local businesses to display, encouraging social distancing and mask wearing.

Staff has not received additional requests for PPE kits and is proposing to reduce this line item by \$89,056 in order to provide adequate funding towards the vaccination efforts.

School District of Indian River County

The School District of Indian River County (SDIRC) has requested a minor revision to their originally agreed upon scope of work. The SDIRC no longer needs to allocate \$3,637.87 to Treasure Coast Technical College PPE supplies, as this need is being funded elsewhere. As a result, the SDIRC wishes to apply this funding towards their Guidance Counselors and Success Coaches line item. The revision does not impact the total \$1,026,690 award.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Board consider the proposed CARES Act reallocations, make any changes to the plan and adopt the proposed plan with any applicable changes. Staff recommends that the Board approve the CARES Act Amendment 1 and Time Extension with TCCH for \$100,000 for reimbursement of staff time and supplies associated with COVID-19 vaccine administration. Staff recommends that the Board approve an amendment to the Health Department Annual contract, decreasing the amount by \$591,088. Staff recommends that the Board approve the Amendment 1 revision to the scope of work provided by the SDIRC. Staff Recommends that the Board approve the Amendment 3 revision to the scope of work provided by the City of Sebastian.

ATTACHMENTS:

CARES Act Spending Plan
TCCH CARES Act Amendment 1
TCCH CARES Act Time Extension
SDIRC CARES Act Amendment 1
City of Sebastian CARES Act Amendment 3