

OCEANA COUNTY FUNDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

** ADMINISTRATOR'S MEETING NOTES **

Date: January 11, 2022

Present: Mr. Craig Hardy, Ms. Tammy Carey, Ms. Mary Lou Phillips, Dr. Lynne Cavazos, and Dr. Robert J. Sobie

Absent: Mr. James Kelly

Others: None

Mr. Hardy called the meeting to order at 11:18 a.m. Members briefly discussed the release of the final rules from U.S. Treasury about how to use the ARPA funds and the opportunity to adopt a “standard allowance” for revenue loss that would include the full allocation of funding to the county. An important benefit from this is that it allows greater spending flexibility.

Regarding the upcoming announcement for organizations to submit funding proposals, members discussed several changes including a delayed notification period until the county receive a preliminary report from Honeywell regarding the energy assessment that started in 2020. Ms. Phillips gave an example of an extreme heat situation recently in her office’s secure vault and that perhaps the members would learn something from the Honeywell report that might trigger a funding recommendation to the county board.

Mr. Hardy proposed other changes that include modifying the funding proposal application form to reflect that the committee is attributing the full allocation of ARPA funds as revenue loss; and clarifying that up to \$1,000,000 may be earmarked to support proposals until funds are exhausted. The public notice will make a similar statement(s).

Ms. Carey will provide a sample “application of intent” that the committee could adapt for use by the public to notify the committee that a funding proposal is forthcoming.

Dr. Sobie presented an IT project proposal that includes offsite backup of digital data and an improved virus/intrusion detection solution for the county’s computer network. However, Dr. Sobie explained that he was describing a project that is eligible for ARPA funding but feels the General Fund is more appropriate because the expense would be an ongoing investment in technology in the county.

The meeting ended at 11:58 a.m. The next meeting will be February 8 at 8:30 a.m.

The advisory committee is not a public body and is not subject to the provisions of the Open Meetings Act, Public Act 267 of 1976 as amended. Committee members may, at their discretion, direct the county administrator to publish notices of the meeting and to invite speakers in to make presentations about funding proposals.