

RESOLUTION 22-10

OBLIGATING AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDS FOR COCHISE COUNTY FIRE STATION ALERT SYSTEM PROJECT

WHEREAS, Cochise County has received money from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (“ARPA”), H.R. 1319; Title IX—Committee on Finance; Subtitle M—Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds; Section 9901, Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of the Treasury has published interim final rules to implement the ARPA (Federal Register / Vol. 86, No. 93 / Monday, May 17, 2021 / Rules and Regulations) and published the Final Rule (Federal Register/Vol. 87, No. 18/ Thursday, January 27, 2022) and the provisions in this final rule are effective April 1, 2022; and

WHEREAS, §35.6(b)(1)(vii) of the Treasury Department’s interim final rule identify Emergency medical response expenses related to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Final Rule clarifies that recipients may use funds for capital expenditures that support an eligible COVID-19 public health or economic response to include acquisition of emergency response equipment (e.g., emergency response radio systems) (Federal Register/Vol. 87, No. 18/ Thursday, January 27, 2022/ p4354); and

WHEREAS, at various points in the COVID -19 pandemic, hospitals and emergency medical services have seen significant influxes in patients; and

WHEREAS, during the COVID-19 pandemic, long-standing gaps in emergency response services in rural communities was amplified and impacted the ability of first responders to serve local communities; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this Resolution is to respond to the public health emergency caused by COVID-19, and to provide funds to invest in technology improvements to emergency response times; and

WHEREAS, current station alerting equipment and dispatch systems and services are outdated and inefficient across Cochise County and;

WHEREAS, Cochise County intends to coordinate the purchase of a county-wide Fire Station Alerting project in 34 station level locations and 2 dispatch level locations, with future license maintenance as the responsibility of each agency.

WHEREAS, expenditure of these funds must be incurred before December 31, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Government's published reporting requirements for the use of ARPA funds include, but are not limited to; Code of Federal Regulations, 2 CFR Part 200 (<https://ecfr.federalregister.gov/current/title-2/subtitle-A>), information from the General Services Administration (<https://sam.gov/fal/7cecfdef62dc42729a3fdcd449bd62b8/view>), Compliance and Reporting Guidance (<https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/SLFRF-Compliance-and-Reporting-Guidance.pdf>) from the Department of the Treasury, the 2020 OMB Compliance Supplement Part 3, Compliance Requirements for 2 CFR Part 200, Appendix XI, issued on August 18, 2020 (https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/2020-Compliance-Supplement_FINAL_08.06.20.pdf), and memorandums from the Office of Management and Budget (<https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Implementation-Guidance-for-Supplemental-Funding-Provided-in-Response.pdf>, and https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/M_21_20.pdf); and

WHEREAS, the ARPA funds are to be used within the geographical boundaries of Cochise County, and for the benefit of residents of Cochise County; and

WHEREAS, the ARPA funds are subject to repayment if they are not spent consistent with the purposes, laws, rules, and guidelines of the ARPA.

THEREFORE, Cochise County obligates the use of the funds in the amount \$2,240,000 for the Fire Station Alert System project as allowed by the laws, rules, and guidelines of the ARPA.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED in Formal Session this 5th day of April 2022.

 4-05-22


Ann English, Chair
Cochise County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:



Tim Mattix
Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

 4/5/2022

Christine J. Roberts, Esq.
Chief Civil Deputy County Attorney