

## AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Commissioners Court – July 14, 2020

**AI Number:** 76328

**Information:** Requesting approval to create 28 COVID-19 Clerk I time-limited positions in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency as necessary and eligible under the CARES Act Relief Fund for the period in which the County COVID-19 Emergency Declaration is in effect.

**Description of AI:** (A) Approval of expenditures; (B) Approval of funds transfer

**Funding Source:** CARES Act Relief Fund

**Account No.:** 0-1287-441-42-115-096-0-XXX

**Requested by:** Sergio Cruz, Budget Officer

**Department:** Budget & Management

**Prepared by:** Ivan Cantu, Budget Analyst III

**Department:** Budget & Management

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### **Background:**

On March 17, 2020, pursuant to the authority under Texas Government Code Section 418.108, Hidalgo County Judge Richard Cortez issued a Declaration of Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency due to the imminent threat arising from the Coronavirus (COVID-19). On March 22, 2020, in accordance with Texas Government Code Section 418.108(b), the Commissioners Court of Hidalgo County issued an Order of Continuance of Declaration of Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency that affirmed the activation of the Hidalgo County Emergency Management Plan and extends the Declaration of Local Disaster.

### **Compliance:**

Approval of the item is consistent with Hidalgo County's intended purpose to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. The goal is to provide efficient and effective delivery of services in light of change in technology, the public's expectations, and the area's population and economy. Hidalgo County is taking the lead in responding to the COVID-19 health emergency for our community as a whole.

### **Agenda Item Caption**

1. Discussion, consideration, and action to approve a necessary CARES Act Relief Fund expenditure to cover costs not accounted for in the current budget and cannot be lawfully funded by line item, allotment or allocation, for personnel costs to create twenty-eight (28) time-limited COVID-19 Clerk I positions to provide COVID-19 related screening at county facilities. The Court having reviewed the Agenda Item Briefing, herein finds that such expenditure is reasonable and necessary for the intended use.

## 2. Approval of intradepartmental transfer

### **Recommendations:**

The CRF – Incurred Cost Committee recommends approval of the creation of twenty-eight (28) time-limited COVID-19 Clerk I positions, as they are reasonable and necessary expenditures to address the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency. Expenditures will be charged to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Relief Grant Fund available to address the COVID-19 public health emergency.