



COUNTY OF HIDALGO

County Judge's Office

Hidalgo County Office of Emergency Management Justification Regarding Creation of a Temporary Position January 8, 2021

I. Background

With the passage and enactment of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) also known as the Third COVID-19 Supplemental Relief Bill on March 31, funds were made available to assist local governments in responding to the ongoing public health emergency.

II. Office of Emergency Management (OEM)

- The Hidalgo County Office of Emergency Management is a subdivision of the Hidalgo County Judge's Office.
- Currently the OEM plans, prepares and responds to emergency situations throughout Hidalgo County and the surrounding area.
- The current COVID-19 public health emergency has placed tremendous strain on emergency resources and additional personnel is needed to monitor, request, coordinate and execute emergency resources

III. Request

- The Hidalgo County Emergency Management Director and Hidalgo County Emergency Management Coordinator hereby request approval of the following position through December 31, 2021.
 - i. Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator II

AGENDA ITEM CAPTION

1. Discussion, consideration, and action to approve a necessary CARES Act Relief Fund expenditure to cover cost not accounted for in the current budget and cannot be lawfully funded by line item, allotment or allocation, for the Hidalgo County Office of Emergency Management, in order to continue Hidalgo County's response to the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency; the Court having reviewed the Agenda Item Briefing, herein finds that such expenditure is reasonable and necessary for the intended use.
2. Approval of Interdepartmental transfer.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Hidalgo County Judge Richard F. Cortez and Hidalgo County Emergency Management Coordinator Chief Ricardo Saldana recommend approval of the one-time certain position to continue Hidalgo County's response to 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.