



WILL COUNTY BOARD AD-HOC CARES ACT FUNDING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

302 N. CHICAGO ST.
JOLIET, IL 60432

JANUARY 28, 2021

County Board Committee Room

Regular Meeting

2:30 PM

IN ACCORDANCE WITH PUBLIC ACT 101-640, EFFECTIVE JUNE 12, 2020 AND THE GUBERNATORIAL DISASTER PROCLAMATION ISSUED BY GOVERNOR PRITZKER ON JANUARY 8, 2021, THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE/TELEPHONICALLY THROUGH THE WEBEX EVENTS PLATFORM. WILL COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS WILL BE ATTENDING THE MEETING REMOTELY AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC IS STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO DO THE SAME.

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO COMMENT OR POSE A QUESTION BY EMAIL AT PUBLICCOMMENT@WILLCOUNTYILLINOIS.COM. AT THE PUBLIC COMMENTS PORTION OF THE MEETING, THE EMAILS WILL BE READ INTO THE RECORD. PLEASE GO TO WWW.WILLCOUNTYBOARD.COM/MEETINGS FOR A LINK TO ATTEND THE MEETING VIA WEBEX.

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

II. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

Mr. Fricilone led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

III. **ROLL CALL**

Chair Kenneth E. Harris called the meeting to order at 2:32 PM

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Kenneth E. Harris	Chair	Present	
Mike Fricilone	District 7 (R - Homer Glen)	Present	
Amanda Koch	District 2 (D - Frankfort)	Present	
Jim Moustis	District 2 (R - Frankfort)	Present	
Sherry Newquist	District 1 (D - Steger)	Present	

Also Present: M. Cowan, M. Johannsen and N. Palmer.

Present from State's Attorney's Office: P. Mock.

IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. **WC Ad-Hoc CARES Act Funding Committee - Regular Meeting - Jan 5, 2021 11:30 AM**

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Sherry Newquist, District 1 (D - Steger)
SECONDER:	Jim Moustis, District 2 (R - Frankfort)
AYES:	Harris, Fricilone, Koch, Moustis, Newquist

V. OLD BUSINESS

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Harris stated at the last meeting there was a lot of discussion about where we are as far as the money and moving things back and forth. Since that time, Leadership, the Speaker, the County Executive and the Finance team met and we came up with what is remaining and the status on a few items. Today's agenda format is different and most of the items are under new business so we can separate the items we need to vote on to move forward. Most likely anything we vote on will go to the Executive Committee for assignment to one of the standing committees.

1. Update on Status of Remaining CARES Funds

(Karen Hennessy)

Ms. Hennessy reviewed the spreadsheet in the agenda packet.

Mr. Fricilone asked have we paid any of the social service grants out?

Ms. Hennessy replied those are in process and we should be doing it in the next few weeks.

Mrs. Traynere asked for an update on the morgue.

Mr. Harris indicated that item would be discussed later in the agenda. We have approximately \$843,000 in the CARES fund.

Mr. Fricilone stated I don't remember the money for housing and rent assistance being that big of a number. We should not pay that out until we see what the new \$20 million grant is going to be. It could be more definitive in what we can use that money for. We may have a tough time spending \$20 million on rental assistance. We may have to give the rest back, if it has a narrow focus on what we can do with it. We can still use this money for something else. I really think we need to define what we are doing with the \$20 million we are getting for rental assistance before we pay this out.

Ms. Hennessy replied this is still in process. They are working on IGAs. The thought was this would fill the spots the new emergency rental assistance (ERA) doesn't. We are not going to pay it out tomorrow, but it is in process. Bronner is going to speak and perhaps they can give us an update and talk about what the guidelines are. Ms. Sojka can explain what the difference would be and how these dollars would be distributed in the community compared to the ERA money we just got. They are targeted for different groups of people.

Mr. Fricilone stated we don't want to spend money that has a looser definition on how we can use it, and then be saddled with the \$20 million. It is not easy to spend some of these dollars. We may not need \$20 million in rental assistance, we may only do \$15 million. We certainly don't want to give any money back because we are under a stricter guideline than we were with these funds.

Ms. Hennessy agreed. Those evaluations need to happen before anyone gets any money.

Speaker Cowan asked I see County department requests approved, in process and requests to be paid. Could you explain the difference between those? The Coroner had requested something with computer systems; where is that? Is it in one of those two categories?

Ms. Hennessy replied through this process, County Departments have made requests, Bronner has reviewed them and determined them eligible for the CRF. We verified they had not been built into the budget and the total was \$13 million. We have paid \$4 or \$5 million. This week we are processing \$2.6 million. The others are still in the works; we created a PO, ordered the goods or services but I don't have the paperwork to pay them yet. I am separating them because we are going to need to do budget amendments and this is a way for us to keep it separate. If we are going to pay these using this \$40 million; we need to amend the budget to allow that. I can't easily breakout the \$4.4 million by expenses type without having the invoices in front of me. The \$2.6 million, we know exactly what it is. The Coroner's request is in here and the software is in the group to be paid.

Speaker Cowan stated as an accounting layperson, these categories are basically the same; you are working on them, they have been approved, but are in process.

Ms. Hennessy stated we have already given the departments approval and told them to go ahead and do this. We can't not pay it now. We told them it was eligible and to go ahead.

Mr. Moustis stated we have \$20 million for rental assistance and I think it is going to be a challenge to disburse those funds. Looking at national data, about 20% of the people are behind on their rent an average of four months with a dollar amount of approximately \$5,600. We have to make a decision on how we are going to put this together. Perhaps Bronner can help with that. You can't do month-to-month; we are going to have to give grants of \$6,000 or six months of rent. I would not like to see us use that \$4.4 million for any type of rental assistance. We have \$20 million of rental assistance money, but it doesn't mean we can't use the money for other programs. It does not mean we can't use it for other housing or utility initiatives. There are other things that go along with being behind on the mortgage. I think we should go back and look at this \$4 million. I would not disburse anything from there yet and see if we can disburse anything in

the pipeline from the \$20 million. Let's assume we have 12 to 18 months to use the funds, I think there is going to be a great need and maybe there will be additional stuff from the Treasury that can be used for mortgage assistance; I don't think the current grant allows for. I would ask you to not disburse any housing assistance from the \$4.4 million until we start the rental assistance program with the \$20 million, because I think we will have the opportunity to use it in other areas where it could be very beneficial. We could look at a program to assist with food and utilities that would help in other ways.

Ms. Hennessy stated we reached out to Ms. Sojka and she reached out to her network. She is working on IGAs, we are not ready to distribute money yet. I agree, we need to figure out what we are going to do with the new money. There is a discussion item later in the agenda about the ERA. Ms. Sojka can explain the differences for how this money would be spent with the network we use all the time versus the new ERA money. That is the reason those are listed here. Those are not in process for payment. When I was putting this together, I was trying to address things that we have already started a process for. If we are now saying we need to wait to make sure we are not conflictive with the funds; that is fine. I still think if we decide to do this, it would come out of the \$40 million. I think everyone is in agreement that we slow down until we figure out the regulations for everything else.

Ms. Newquist stated I thought that the CDBG housing assistance was to be for things the rental assistance did not cover, such as mortgages or utilities. Do we need to have a conversation at some point to decide what we are going to spend that money on?

Ms. Hennessy replied yes.

Mr. Davis stated this has changed because of the \$20 million. They are slowly putting out more information. The main thing I was thinking about was mortgages. The ERA is for rental assistance and not mortgages. There are other things such as the income levels where there may be a need here. You are correct about the \$4.4 million. There is some eviction assistance, financial counseling and things like that that may be eligible under the ERA program. We need to look at this comprehensively.

Ms. Sojka stated the way we proposed these dollars to work was in a more holistic fashion where they would fill the gaps from the current funding that does not fill and these dollars could fill that. We are working with the same agencies that have assistance out there. Our CDBG dollars only cover three months of assistance. Many families coming to apply are more than three months behind on rent. In those cases, the county's CRF dollars would be eligible to fill that need. There are income restrictions on other grants; the ERA dollars are asking to prioritize households under \$50,000. We are looking at allowing the county dollars to go up

to \$120,000 which would allow individuals who are middle income with mortgages to apply for those dollars. We would also use these dollars as gap fillers when other funding is not able to fill the gap, the county dollars will be able to meet the gap. The other aspect is holistic, individuals who are coming in with serious debt management or credit repair issues we were hoping to connect them to resources for that type of assistance, in addition to crisis counseling. We were proposing to do this with our four agencies who are working together to make sure benefits are not duplicated. One proposals was up to \$1 million each, it does not tie them to spending \$1 million, it gives them the allowance to go up to that amount. We would check in with them as the year progresses to determine where they are at. I know there is the temptation to wait, but one agency that was funding with CDBG dollars has seen an increase in requests and they expect their dollars to be expended by April. We were hoping to get these available dollars to those four community groups by the end of February so they will have them available for use by then. With all the planning and figuring out how we are going to get the ERA dollars out, they will not be available in the community until April. You are looking at from now until April of not having enough resources. I don't want to be in a position where we are sitting on dollars when we could be using them.

Mr. Moustis stated the \$20 million ERA is available right now, the Treasurer has the money in the bank. We need to start to appropriate the \$20 million ERA money as soon as we can. If it is a separate program, we need to set it up now, whether we do it through this Ad-Hoc Committee or the Finance Committee, but we need to move on that now. Ms. Sojka, these funds are available so we need to make those funds available as quickly as we can. Ms. Hennessy do you have any thoughts on how we might want to move forward to start making these funds available to be able to disburse those funds.

Ms. Hennessy replied there are a lot of ways and we can talk about ways to get that money out later in the agenda.

Mr. Moustis stated I have no problem leaving it as it is and just adjusting it or reappropriating it for other programs. Maybe can we raise the income level with this money. I am not saying we can't use the funds for some of those initiatives and other types of assistance.

Ms. Hennessy stated before we could even pay any of this \$4 million out, we would have to come back to the Finance Committee and amend the budget. We can't even pay it right now. It is going to be slow process. We will not pay everything out in a month. As we gather bills and invoices we will have the budget amended.

Ms. Ventura stated you have talked about how to possibly move money around, especially the new money that is more allocated for housing. This will allow for the

money to be spent on areas we did not address the first go around. Later, I am going to be requesting that we go back and look non-profits, particularly fraternal organizations. When we first talked about this, we thought they were going to be included, but they were not. There are also lots of businesses, non-profits and regular businesses that missed the bucket; they did not apply and they would like money now. Is there is a possibility we could reopen for those particular instances? It would be fantastic and everyone gets a go around who did not get the money out of the first time. If there are dollars that need to be prioritized and we have the ERA money in the bank, definitely making sure that is a priority but it seems like you could set that money aside from the new dollars and look at some, not all of the previous dollars to new entities that could use it.

Mr. Harris stated we will be discussing that later in our agenda.

Ms. Hennessy continued with a review of the spreadsheet discussion items. These items were talked about at the Ad-Hoc Committee, but there has never been an official approval. These are things we need to decide if we want to move forward with and if we do, they will require Committee action. If we are going to move forward with the morgue, then we need to appropriate that in the budget, because we have no ability to pay for a morgue at this time. Something new is the set aside for the Health Department for the vaccine program. These are the defederalized dollars we moved to the corporate fund. The Health Department needs to quick, fast and in a hurry set up a vaccination program for the entire County. Some of these dollars are reimbursable through FEMA, but they are reimbursable, which means we need to start spending. I think we can get a reimbursement based on a cost estimate, but we need to have the ability to act quickly. This is something we added recently; the others are items we talked about at the Ad-Hoc Committee. Mr. Harris can determine how we want to move forward with these items. Some of these are on the agenda as discussion items. I don't know if you want to move on to those. I would be happy to answer questions about them.

Mr. Fricilone asked when you say "we added the vaccine program"; who is we?

Ms. Hennessy replied the County Executive's Office. When I was putting this together it was decided we need to set aside money for the Health Department to put the vaccine program together quickly.

Mr. Fricilone stated those requests are supposed to come to the Committee from the Health Department. I have not seen any requests from the Health Department. I thought the Health Department was getting a bunch of money for vaccine distribution from the feds.

Mr. Schaben stated the Health Department has received about \$1.7 million from the State for vaccine distribution. When they did the H1N1 vaccinations

distribution a few years ago, they vaccinated approximately 18,000 people at a cost of \$1 million. They do not have nearly the resources they need to scale this up to where it needs to be. Could there be money in the future from the feds or the State; yes, but right now they have a budget crunch, especially when it comes to the vaccine distribution.

Mr. Fricilone stated I would like the Health Department to come and ask us for that, which is the way we follow the program. I thought it was \$4 million to buy the hotel, which is not happening, and that money was set aside in the CARES Act money, not in the money that is in our budget. These are all things you are talking about coming out of our budget; the \$40 million that was moved over and you are saying \$27 million is left. I thought that was coming from and allocated when we did the CARES Act money we left over there. It seems like some money is missing. I am not seeing where we spent it all. What about the money we were going to use from CARES for the body cams for the Sheriff's Department? Where is the money for opening up the two new courtrooms? Is that all in the money that is in process for the County?

Ms. Hennessy replied the body cams are in the FY2021 budget, they are already taken care of outside of this. Outfitting the courtrooms is included in this, doing the courtrooms with video is included. We have not paid the bills so it should be included in the \$4.4 million.

Mr. Fricilone stated it might help us if we saw a breakdown of the county requests that are in process and those being paid. We don't know what is in there anymore.

Ms. Hennessy indicated she could provide the information.

Mr. Fricilone continued that way we are not asking questions of what happened to the money because we will see it is in process. I thought we kept the Morning Star hotel in the CARES Act because it was moving along. They did not find out it was not going to happen until after we moved the money to the County; why would that have been in the money we moved?

Ms. Hennessy replied it has not been paid for and we have not moved forward. The purchase was \$4 million with \$1 million to renovate the facility; that is where the \$5 million comes from.

Mr. Fricilone stated we did not agree to that. We said we would buy it and Morning Star would be responsible for everything else.

County Executive Bertino-Tarrant stated I am trying to get back to systematic order because we are jumping around and that is why we had the agenda as it is. Here is the reality and I am going to be quite harsh; I have inherited this. It is

probably not the way it should have been organized and delegated. We are trying to rewind things and get some answers. I heard you ask about the Health Department coming to ask for money and why are they not here. Above all other, all this stuff, we need money to get the vaccine out to people. It will cost millions. Why the Health Department has not asked for it, I can't answer. From what I understand this is the first time the County Executive's Office has inserted itself and I am inserting myself whether I am supposed to be or not because everyone is getting hit hard with this. Above all of this, and I know I am being direct, this has been quite an overwhelming task to try to get this out. All of this is important and we need to get our money out, but all the other things should not take any less precedence than this vaccine. I want to be able to answer these questions for you all, but I really need us to stay on this agenda so we can get through this and really talk about what we need to do. Mr. Fricilone, I'm sorry, I was going to call you and I thought you got a prep talk about this prior. Can we just stick with the agenda? Let us get through this agenda and then we can answer all the questions that we want of these issues. I would appreciate that.

Mr. Harris stated let's follow the agenda because a lot of the questions being asked are going to be covered as we move forward. We will need to make decisions on the items in front of us which may bring up other questions and concerns.

Mr. Hughes stated our presentation is mostly updates on programs that continue that were started the last few months. I will be brief and we can continue on the agenda.

Speaker Cowan stated I think our number one priority does have to be getting the vaccine out and the County Executive's Office has been very helpful in trying to get information from the Health Department to move things along. So I really appreciate their partnership and work they have done on that. However, I need to comment on the first few sentences, County Executive, of what you just said. I appreciate that you have "inherited this". The inference that things were done inappropriately before your arrival is unwarranted. You were not here, so you did not know the process and I understand that. This Committee has worked exceptionally hard, followed all legal guidelines, followed all guidelines from our State's Attorney, from the federal government and from our consultants to get this money out as fast, efficiently and legally as they could. We are now shifting gears to make things a little more delineated, per one of your requests, that you and I have had conversations about and I understand we are adapting because I think you are right. But, frankly your first couple of sentences were unwarranted. I just have to publically pushback from that.

County Executive Bertino-Tarrant stated I did not say anything was illegal, don't make assumptions.

Speaker Cowan continued I think we can review your words.

County Executive Bertino-Tarrant stated I will not be scolded.

Speaker Cowan stated this is a County Board Committee and to come in and infer that we were not doing things appropriately or the way you wanted them to be done in a public forum is not appropriate. The County Board will continue this process, as they have, in a transparent and legal fashion and any inference that this Committee or its members have done anything differently, I will defend against and will push back against. As I started in my comments, I support very much that we support the Health Department in whatever they need and that you have been the intermediary with the Health Department to get this moving. But your original sentences were not warranted. You said them in public forum and as the Leader of the County Board, I am defending the County Board and their actions.

Mr. Moustis stated thank you Speaker Cowan.

Mr. Harris stated we have come a long way in this process since April, 2020 when we got this money to do all we have done. We are trying to move forward. I never took any exception that we did anything wrong. I like the process we used, I liked the involvement, but we need to move forward. We got what we wanted in terms of an extension and now is time to move forward. Perhaps things could have gone smoother, we don't know because this is the first time we a chance to spend \$120 million.

County Executive Bertino-Tarrant stated I am going to stress again, I did not say anything was done illegal. If that is what was inferred, then that was not the intention.

Mr. Moustis stated not that it was illegal, but you did infer you would have done it differently like somehow we did something wrong.

County Executive Bertino-Tarrant stated you are right, I did. We are just trying to make the most of the situation at hand. I don't know why the Health Department has not asked for this money. I know it is going to be throwing a wrench into the process, especially since we have had requests that are unanswered. I want to make sure, I heard the Speaker say it is a priority, and I want to make sure that above all else, that the vaccination rollout, which is going to be expensive and the State has not come through with money, is a priority. If it came out as though I was accusing illegal action that was never my attention. I have said this publically and will say again, I think the County Board has taken this money and allocated well. Everyone has been touched and everybody has received stuff, much more than other municipalities. So, again, that was never the implication and I never used those words. We need to get through this agenda so we have some direction

and I wanted to stress the fact we are going to have a big request in regard to getting the vaccination out. I apologize if you felt the implication was things were done illegally. It has not been and I have never said that or implied that.

Mr. Davis stated regarding the \$5 million for the hotel. The \$1 million was always going to be defederalized funds because it was construction related. We thought \$4 million for the purchase would be with CRF funds. It got very complicated because there was not an extension of the deadline until the very last minute, we were not sure if the zoning board would approve it and that depended on when they could close. In December it was moved to being just corporate funds.

Mr. Fricilone stated then there should have been \$44 million, because we voted to put into contingency \$40 million when we did the initial move. If we moved an additional \$4 or \$5 million, we should be at \$44 or \$45 million in the county budget. That is the question I have about the numbers.

Mr. Davis indicated he would look at this closer, speak with Ms. Hennessy and see if we can summarize that for you.

Mr. D'Onofrio reviewed page 3 of the attached presentation.

Mr. Hughes reviewed pages 4 and 5 of the presentation.

Mr. Lynch reviewed page 6 of the presentation.

Ms. Newquist stated I have been getting questions about who we have given money to, particularly the small business grant assistance program. I know you are planning to put a list out, but is it possible to get that soon. Can you break the list down by geography, race or gender? People are wondering if their area is being slighted and if minority businesses getting money. I believe we are collecting those statistics.

Mr. Lynch replied yes, we are collecting those statistics. We were providing the information upon request. Now that the program has been finalized we should have a final list with the statistics early next week to distribute.

Ms. Heard stated you will be pleased with the numbers in terms of minority and women owned businesses that have received grants.

Mr. Fricilone asked when you say it is posted on the website, it should be on the County website for full transparency anybody in the county who wants to look at the main website can see all of that information.

Ms. Freeman asked could you elaborate a little more on the FEMA and the vaccine? Will the vaccine programs be covered by FEMA?

Mr. D'Onofrio replied it is a policy shift. The President issued a memorandum on

the 21st. This week FEMA has been getting together and deciding how to implement that. Costs submitted to FEMA for reimbursement under the mass vaccination, would include the cost to transport and store the vaccine, PPE for those administering, additional staffing capacity and once those costs are incurred by the County, submitted and after FEMA determines them to be eligible, they would reimburse them at 100% federal cost share, previously it was 75%. It makes it such the County can receive all of the money it spends on these items. It is notoriously tight program. It has been around for a long time and it has stood to help with floods and hurricanes, but this is a new scope that the program has. The best way to take advantage of these funds would be to insure the Health Department and EMA are spending to meet the need for vaccines, documenting costs properly and submitting them to FEMA for reimbursement. The major change is it is a 100% cost share rather than 75%.

Mr. Moustis stated it appeared to me FEMA was going to pick up a lot of the costs for distribution and help give the injections. This is going to play into our discussion later and I hope the presenters are going to say how this all fits in with the additional programs they would like us to institute and pay for. Could you go over that one more time; I would like to have a good understanding of exactly what additional costs we might have outside of FEMA. The FEMA program plays into any other programs we may be instituting.

Mr. Harris stated he would bring that up during that portion of the agenda.

Ms. Ventura stated Mr. Fricilone is 100% correct, requests needs to come through here. At the Public Health meeting I asked Ms. Olenek if she needed funds and if so to submit them to the CARES Committee. I sent an e-mail today advising the same thing. They are interviewing for a Director of Vaccination position, an EM Track Lead and a Robocall center. If they have not come forward to ask for this money; is it something FEMA will cover with this money or is something we need to set aside in the CARES money to cover these costs?

Mr. D'Onofrio replied FEMA would cover the expenses, once it is spent by the Health Department. I think it does play into getting the Health Department \$5 million for a call center, points of distribution and FEMA will cover them. The specific things FEMA will cover are: supplies and commodities needed to safely store and administer the vaccine; transportation support, as reasonable; necessary security for refrigerated trucks and maintenance of those vehicles; medical and support staff, including on-site infection control measures; PPE for those delivering the vaccine and dissemination of public information and communication regarding vaccinations. These are things once the county engages in the activities and properly documents them they can submit to FEMA and get reimbursed at 100% of those costs.

Ms. Ventura stated the last one on here is a PR and communications person,

which falls within the last guideline. They need to spend the money now and then go to FEMA. Do we need to identify that in a line item for CARES money?

Mr. D'Onofrio replied at this stage it would be the \$5 million request from the corporate fund. When that decision is made the Health Department can hire a public communications person and they can be employed for for COVID related public information. Their additional staffing costs would be reimbursed by FEMA on a regular basis once the person is hired. The same with any other vaccine administration costs. We cannot get the money until it is spent.

Mr. Moustis stated the program is a reimbursable from FEMA. I think it makes it problematic to use CARES money. How does it goes back to CARES?

Mr. Fricilone stated this is not CARES money it is corporate money. We should give them a loan like we do with the DOT.

Mr. Moustis stated I just want to make sure because they were talking about using CARES money. Ms. Ventura you are the Chair of the Public Health and I assume some of this was never brought to your attention and it never went through your Committee. I am a big advocate of using the County Board Committee structure. These additional requests by the Health Department should have gone through the Public Health Committee first and not just to CARES. Madam Speaker I am a little concerned that we are bypassing our historical or traditional committee structure and coming right to CARES. I believe it is starting to become problematic.

Mr. Harris stated we are going to get back to the Committee structure. These items will be assigned to a Committee. If we could just get through this agenda, I believe everyone is going to be pleased once we get through the discussion items.

Mr. D'Onofrio reviewed page 7 of the presentation.

Mr. Davis reviewed pages 8 and 9 of the presentation.

Ms. Winfrey asked could we get a list of the approved food banks and who still hanging out there? On the social service piece; has the Will Grundy Medical Center and others received their allocation?

Mr. Davis replied the Will Grundy Medical Center is definitely one of them.

Bronner Presentation January 28, 2021

(Presentation)

2. Discussion Re: Proposed Morgue Project

(Discussion)

Motion to Move Discussion of the Proposed Morgue Project to the Executive Committee for Assignment

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Sherry Newquist, District 1 (D - Steger)
SECONDER:	Mike Fricilone, District 7 (R - Homer Glen)
AYES:	Harris, Fricilone, Koch, Moustis, Newquist

3. **Discussion Re: Proposed Air Quality Projects**

(Discussion)

Motion to Move Discussion of the Proposed Air Quality Projects to the Executive Committee for Assignment

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Mike Fricilone, District 7 (R - Homer Glen)
SECONDER:	Sherry Newquist, District 1 (D - Steger)
AYES:	Harris, Fricilone, Koch, Moustis, Newquist

4. **Appropriating Funds in the Veterans Assistance Commission FY21 Budget for COVID-19 Marketing Campaign**

(Discussion)

Motion to Move Discussion of Proposed VAC Projects to the Executive Committee for Assignment

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jim Moustis, District 2 (R - Frankfort)
SECONDER:	Mike Fricilone, District 7 (R - Homer Glen)
AYES:	Harris, Fricilone, Koch, Moustis, Newquist

5. **Allocating Funds in the County Board FY21 Budget for Health Department for Public Relations Firm/Communications Manager? for Covid-19 Vaccination Communication Strategy**

(Discussion)

Mr. Fricilone asked can we see the RFQ before it gets sent out or before we move forward on this? When it comes to the vaccine distribution and call center monies, we need to use the example we do with the Health Department and DOT where we loan them the money. If we know FEMA is going to pay them back, we will loan them the money out of the corporate fund and then we will get paid back. If they don't use all the money we loan they will have to pay it back, the rest will be covered by FEMA and it will go back into the county contingency fund. I would like to see the RFQ before it goes out.

Mr. Schaben stated I sent to RFQ to Mr. Palmer.

Mr. Moustis asked why are we doing the RFQ? If this is something that is primarily for getting the appropriate information out on the COVID vaccines, why are we doing it? Why isn't the RFQ going out under the Health Department? I don't quite understand. I don't mean we can't work with the Health Department, but this is starting to become an overreach by the County Board. The County Board is more

responsible, because we appropriate money for these type of public information because it would be within the budget. Are we appropriating money to the Health Department for this? If we are, let them do the RFQ. If it is their initiative, I don't understand why the County is going to do it, but it is their responsibility. Why are we doing the RFQ? I would like an explanation. Who is doing the RFQ? I know it is coming out of the County Executive's Office. Certainly, if there is money in the Executive's budget they can do these type of initiatives, if they choose or if they think they can get the continuing funding from the County Board. I just don't understand why we are doing it. I want an explanation if this is the Health Department's why are we doing it?

County Executive Bertino-Tarrant replied I agree, this is what I was saying earlier; I can't explain. I think part of this was the Health Department was expecting to get more money. This is an overwhelming task. As everyone on this Board knows, someone has received a phone along the lines of this issue. The RFQ is coming from the Health Department and we are helping them. We have created a partnership between our office, EMA and the Health Department to get the vaccine out. We have to vaccinate 700,000 residents of Will County and those who work in Will County. All of the subgroups, much like when you had to reach out to the businesses, all of them have all types of subgroups that we don't have a phone book of how to contact them. Schools is just one example; inside a school you have your special needs facilities, day cares it is something that the Health Department alone cannot handle. They have one communications person and he cannot handle the work. Most of the issues over the last several months has been communications. I have had several talks with Ms. Olenek and the Board President and they are welcoming this partnership. I think they are very grateful and this team effort is allowing us to move things along a lot quicker and allow us to get the shots in the arms of our residents a lot faster. We are still just in phases. Can you imagine when we open this up to the public? We don't have the facility space to do that. This is about us reaching out to different entities. Everyone wants to offer up their facilities, but with that becomes registering, the proper people to vaccinate and getting ahold of people. There are many part to this, it is not PR and getting out information, it is about a call center that is able to answer questions. I am on the phone with people who are asking me questions. Technically, it is not our job; I 100% get that, but it is our responsibility to help them, in my opinion. Our Health Department needs the EMA, the County Board and the County Executive's Office to get behind them so we can get this vaccine out. I wish they would have come with a proposal earlier; I am not defending or criticizing, I just know what is in front of us. I am asking for your support and perhaps a little leeway to help us get the vaccine out to the community.

Mr. Moustis stated Madam Executive I agree with almost everything you said there. We are all in this together and we all have a responsibility to do whatever we can. My question is; why are we doing an RFQ and why isn't the Health Department doing the RFQ. They don't need our support, they work

independently. If they did the RFQ all they need to know is they have our support for it financially, which I think we can give them. The County Executive's Office and the Health Department and other offices can all work together. I am questioning why we are doing the RFQ?

County Executive Bertino-Tarrant stated I understand that. We have worked in conjunction with them in writing the RFQ. It becomes bandwidth, they don't have the capacity to stop and write one. We are just trying to assist. Mr. Fricilone asked can we get reimbursed for this; I don't know all the dynamics of that to speak on that. It is about their limitations. If the people in my office and I can help them with that, I have committed to them, we will help them. That is the best answer I can give, we are trying to assist so they can focus on getting the vaccine in the arms.

Mr. Moustis stated EMA works with FEMA all of the time. EMA is under your office and hopefully they will be helping with FEMA also.

County Executive Bertino-Tarrant stated they really helped. They talked with the Health Department and helped craft the vaccination plan. EMA has been terrific. This has just turned into an all hands on deck. I know you are sensing some of my frustration that is ill directed, I will say it. You know how every good deed does not go unpunished and that is what we are dealing with right now. We are offering a lot of support. We are going to be able to get almost 3,000 teachers vaccinated next week, due to the collaborative effort, and that would have probably been a lot slower. It is a fight among which school goes first and which school goes last. There is a lot going on. We just need a little leeway from the normal process, especially with these dollars that were allocated for CARES. I wish I have better answer or better clarification for you as to why it did not happen before, but I don't have that.

Speaker Cowan stated I agree with what the County Executive said; that the Health Department needs our help and I think we are all in the same boat. I want to go back to the question about this \$5 million bucket. My vision is that we are not writing the Health Department a blank check. The ask today is, from my perspective, from the CARES Committee is as you start to figure out where we want to spend more money that you do as you did at the beginning of this process and that is to hold back or put in a bucket approximately \$5 million for possible vaccine distribution. Mr. Fricilone I believe your point is on; it could be a loan. If they get the money we can redistribute to other things, but if they don't we have to help them to make this happen for our residents. We can hold back about \$5 million then the Health Department, if you need the County Executive's help, you come to us with specific requests with receipts and say this is what we need and this is how we want to do it and then the County Board can allocate funds as they see fit and this Committee can decide whether those requests are approved.

Mr. Palmer stated Mr. Schaben mentioned I received the RFQ, which is true. I received it Tuesday night and that was the first that I saw it. According to Mr. Schaben it was reviewed by the State's Attorney's Office and put on the street Monday. It is on the County's website and it has been released to the public. If it is not obvious, we are releasing it, but there is no funding in the Health Department's budget so the CARES money would fund this. The RFQ is on the street and it will come back. There will have to be an approval process and negotiation of a contract, because an RFQ is qualification, it is just that, qualifications, it is not a contract. Since it is being released by the County proper, the County Board will have to approve any contracts, authorize negotiations and execution of a contract and the County Board will have to approve funding. It would be helpful to have known some of this sooner. To Mr. Fricilone's point, usually and historically, bids that the County is dealing with come to a Committee before they are released not after, because the Board has to fund these and they have to approve when it comes back. Hopefully, this helps for anyone who did not know this.

Mr. Fricilone asked Mr. Mock; this is a professional service, right? We don't need to go through a bid process?

Mr. Mock replied it does not have to be bid. We are doing a RFQ, but we award it on whoever we this is appropriate.

Mr. Fricilone stated I hope Bronner is submitting.

Mr. Hughes replied we have downloaded it and we are taking a look at it; that is all we will say at this time.

Ms. Ventura stated I agree with the County Executive and the Speaker that we need to work together. I am going to suggest, since this is going through multiple entities and we don't want to have a breakdown of responsibilities, that we call a Special Meeting. The meeting would include the County Executive, County Board, the Health Department, primarily Ms. Olenek, Bronner, who can help us answer CARES questions and the Board of Health. We could have the IGAs, RFQs and Resolutions to move forward for our Board if need be. We can discuss this in a public meeting, iron out who is doing what, what is appropriate, where we can overlap it, solve it and get information to the public that we are working hard to make sure at the end of the day, what is most important is getting them vaccinated. Is this something we can make happen?

Mr. Moustis asked if we use CARES money, can you reimburse a federal grant and reimburse another grant back? The only reason I am saying that is because I believe it gets a little muddly. I think you have to use corporate money.

Mr. Fricilone replied we don't have any CARES money, there is only \$800,000 left

in CARES.

Mr. Moustis stated I understand that but people keep saying use CARES money. I think they are talking about the defederalized dollars, which is the corporate fund. I want to get some clarification on that. All reimbursements go back to the corporate fund regardless, because even if it was a Health Department grant, it comes to the County for us to appropriate those dollars. Am I correct in the assumption that all reimbursements from FEMA would come back to the corporate fund?

Mr. Mock replied any reimbursement from any type of fund come back to the corporate fund. When we get a witness fee for a subpoena, it goes to the corporate fund. Everything goes to the corporate fund when it comes back. When they say CARES fund, I think they are using shorthand for the corporate CARES fund money they put into the corporate. I agree with Mr. Fricilone, there is only \$843,000 in the CARES relief fund which is technically the real CARES fund.

Mr. Moustis stated I am trying to clarify since people are using different terminology. It would be money that comes out of the corporate funds, and it could be part of the money that came over from CARES, we refer to as defederalized funds, it is the corporate fund. For those worried about the reimbursement, they all go back to the corporate fund.

Ms. Newquist asked do we need a mechanism or a motion today to set money aside for the Health Department projects? Is that something that can be determined later?

Mr. Fricilone stated it has to go to the Finance Committee.

Motion to Move Discussion of the Health Department Projects to the Executive Committee for Assignment

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Sherry Newquist, District 1 (D - Steger)
SECONDER:	Jim Moustis, District 2 (R - Frankfort)
AYES:	Harris, Fricilone, Koch, Moustis, Newquist

6. Update on ERA Status and Next Steps

(County Executive's Office)

Ms. Sojka reviewed the PowerPoint presentation attached to the minutes.

Mr. Moustis stated this seems to be more of an administrative function than a policy function. Once we decide which process we will use, it is totally an administrative function. I would look to Ms. Sojka for some direction on this and what you think would potentially work best for our residents; even though I have questions as far as what we have the ability to do or what a County Board might set up as a policy. I would assume one of our goals would be to bring someone

current in their rent. If they are six months behind in rent and we only give them four months, they are still behind. I would ask for guidance on what would be our goal? Would we bring them current and offer some counseling to keep them current? Ms. Sojka when do you think the County Board should weigh in as far as policy? There seems to be some leeway on how much we can get, whether we give six or seven months and I assume we want to bring people current. So there will be a robust expenditure upfront and less after that. I am looking for additional guidance from you.

Ms. Sojka replied we drafted a program design for the CRF funds and I shared that with the Bronner Group to get the review from an eligibility standpoint of whether all the things we were proposing were eligible. I think it would be helpful if once Mr. Davis and I say we are good to go from an eligibility standpoint if we shared that with the Committee so you understand where we are going with those dollars. With those dollars it was up to six months and we would also assist, if a renter was behind on rent, but still in a predicament in terms of the loss of hours, we would do rent assistance for the remainder of their lease term. Essentially, we want to keep them housed; which is the goal of all these programs so they are not losing housing. We had a lot feedback from our partners currently administering the programs that some landlords will not accept partial payments because they want the ability to be able to evict someone. If they are going to accept the assistance they want a zero balance. This is where coordination becomes a real issue and why it is important to have our agencies that are administering it working together. If one program only covers six months but they still need rent assistance, now you have another pot of money for rent assistance. Whether you do crisis or mental health or debt management counseling we have all of those pieces put together and that is described in the program manual. The \$20 million is more restrictive because it is just rent assistance and the priority is under 50% AMI and then you are looking at the volume that needs to get expended. With the ERA dollars last year, IDHA did a maximum of \$5,000 rent assistance. They understand the need for coordinating benefits so they are looking at whether or not they can do a shared portal where our local providers can determine whether a person received assistance from IDHA. The option for giving money to IDHA or partnering with IDHA with their program, one of the benefits is they have the infrastructure in place and once they decide how they are going to model their program, we can adjust locally to fill the gaps. If their program will only be for 50% AMI, then we can focus our dollars on mortgage and above 50% AMI. One of the things the County could do and make a difference is with marketing. We can get \$25 million out of IDHA if we market the program because IDHA's allocation is available to Will County residents as well. If we don't do a good job marketing, we won't have applicants applying to IDHA. If we gave any portion to IDHA as a partnership, we would have controls in place for the coordination of benefits between all the parties and we can market the program collectively.

Mr. Moustis stated it seems to me doing coordination with IDHA or a joint venture

with IDHA would certainly be worth pursuing. I would like to see all our money go to Will County residents, but it is our effectiveness of the program that will determine whether we have accomplished that. You said even if we turn some money over to IDHA it could be used for Will County. I don't know if I can ask you to put something formally together to look at, but I think that would be helpful.

Ms. Sojka stated we are continuing conversations with IDHA. I have been in contact with my collar county counterparts and they are looking to do the same. I think we would benefit from all getting the dollars spent in our own counties and IDHA feels the same way when it comes to the next level for them because they want the money to stay in Illinois. If they are not able to spend it on Illinois residents it gets recaptured and it goes away. They are in the same situation as we are, meaning they want the dollars to stay local. If we all partner in the marketing of it with one place to send people, we all know what assistance they are providing we can locally pivot our assistance to meet the other needs. I know what our local agencies are able to handle and we would be well served if we did the hybrid model and we kept a little bit to do the mediation concept. In the hybrid model a bulk of the dollars go to IDHA but we would retain some of it for the eviction mediation concept; at this point this is where I am leaning. Of course, there is information coming from all sorts of different ways; the timeframes are changing and all sorts of things are happening. I will definitely report back on the progress of those conversations. With IDHA we have to make a decision by the end of February; that is the timeline.

Mr. Fricilone stated I agree that the hybrid might be the way to go. When you said you are already talking to the other counties, do you think some of them will decide sooner than we do? It would be nice to know everyone is getting together, we don't want to be the lone wolf with IDHA.

Ms. Sojka replied we are all on the call and talking. We all realizing we are better off if we all decide the same thing. By doing that, we can co-market the same way and we could look to our state agency to get these dollars out to everyone. I will keep you updated and make sure we are not the lone wolf.

Ms. McNichol asked would Veterans' qualify for this emergency rental assistance?

Ms. Sojka replied absolutely.

Ms. McNichol stated we would love to help you with the marketing project portion of this, since we have a specific request for marketing already at the CARES Committee.

Ms. Sojka replied that would be great. As I said, the priorities are under 50% AMI. When I said the County could play a pivotal role, they could help us market to the areas that need assistance; whether that is the VAC, our hard hit areas, R-3 zones

or where ever it is. At the rental complexes if we could get the property managers to know where to send an individual we will all be better off. Your help would be great.

Mr. Fricilone congratulated Ms. Sojka on the R-3 loans.

Mr. Mock stated even though we are not sure what we want to do, because of the time crunch, you should move this to the Executive Committee to move it forward to the Board. If you are going to do an IGA with IDHA and the other counties, that has to be done by our February Board meeting.

Mr. Moustis asked could we give the County Executive's Office the ability to negotiate and execute? I normally don't favor that, but in this case it may be warranted.

Mr. Mock replied that is fine, you need to get it on the agenda to do that. You can let the County Executive know the best way to do it. Ultimately, you have to pass that authority at this meeting to make the end of February deadline.

Ms. Sojka added the end of February deadline was to give IDHA a commitment we are in. I don't know if that meant the actual agreement had to be signed and executed. I will keep it in mind in terms of our internal timeline as well. Mr. Mock, could we connect on the eviction mediation program, I would appreciate your guidance on that.

Mr. Mock indicated he would call Ms. Sojka the following day.

Motion to Move ERA Status and Next Steps to the Executive Committee.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jim Moustis, District 2 (R - Frankfort)
SECONDER:	Mike Fricilone, District 7 (R - Homer Glen)
AYES:	Harris, Fricilone, Koch, Moustis, Newquist

VII. OTHER NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Ventura stated when we started this process we talked about giving money to non-profits and whether we should do it through the United Way. One thing we discussed was giving money to fraternal organizations; like the Elks Lodge, Moose, etc., it sounded like that was an agreement and it moved forward. There is an Elk's Lodge in my area who applied for the money. Somewhere along the lines, it became policy that 501-C-8 were not included. It was not voted on by the CARES Committee, it was just of oversight. I am asking that these organizations be allowed to apply for CARES money as we move forward with the new money. Obviously, it needs to be open to all of the 501-C-8 so they can apply. Often times, these organizations are run by membership fees, people dining or drinking at the bar, fundraisers and these non-profits were hampered by that when they had to close their doors as well. It only makes sense that we allow them to apply for the money. I am making a formal request that we revisit that and if there is any way to go back through the process with the money great. If it needs to be moving forward, I am okay with that.

Mr. Fricilone replied we decided not to do that because of the number of organizations that would include, including the Knights of Columbus. There were hundreds of them that would follow. That is why we excluded them. If you are talking about revenue replacement, this is not about revenue replacement for these organizations.

Ms. Ventura stated I am not talking about revenue replacement. They requested reimbursement for PPE in the amount of \$2,000. We also included a lot of other things in here. You talk about the Knight of Columbus; I understand there are other entities. We allowed public and private schools to get this money, we allowed churches to get this money and I am very confused why we would not let these non-profits to get it, if private schools and churches were allowed to get it.

Mr. Davis stated there is a large number of 501-c classifications for being a nonprofit. It goes from cemeteries, burial groups and fraternal organizations. One issue was we did not know how much demand was going to be out there. There are a couple thousand 501-c-3. Religious institutions automatically qualify as a 501-c-3, even if they have not put in with the IRS. The program for \$2,000 was just for 501-c-3. Based on different needs, we have had other things come up; one was the view \$2,000 was not enough to help major social service agencies and that developed into a new program for social service agencies. The same happened with behavioral health. Education was to show parity with the public schools. It would be permissible under CRF rules to fund the fraternal organizations. It would have to meet the other criteria of being COVID related, meet the December 31, 2021 deadline and not supplanting the government budget. I think it does qualify it just becomes a policy decision on does this group want to fund 501-c-18 organizations or other groups of other 501-c groups.

Mr. Fricilone asked do you remember how many organizations were in the 501-c-8 group?

Mr. Davis replied there were around 250. The other thing we did for the 501-c-3's was we put in a requirement they had to have a physical location in Will County, so it was not just a group meeting at someone's house.

Ms. Ventura asked would they need to show receipts like all the other entities? So not all 250 of these organizations would apply.

Mr. Davis replied it was a grant program, not reimbursement so they do not have to show receipts.

Ms. Newquist stated I thought we excluded because the organizations were across the board; some were more charitable in nature, some were more social in nature and once we funded one of them, we realistically would have to fund all of them. We would have to make it open to any and I thought it was due to the across the broadness of it we decided it was safer to err on the side of not funding them.

Mr. Fricilone replied you are correct Ms. Newquist.

Ms. Ventura stated I understand what you are saying is you don't want to open that door, but these are entities that were hurt. Some of these are businesses that employ people. It is no different than other non-profits and other businesses who got money. Why did we exclude them? Just because there were a lot of them?

Ms. Newquist asked is there a specific fraternal organization that you are concerned about?

Ms. Ventura replied yes, the Elks Lodge. They have come before the Board multiple times about stuff, this being the most recent one. They were told they would be able to get the PPE money and applied, they were denied and came back to ask why. They are in my area so they are constituents of mine. I brought up the Elks Lodge multiple times in these meetings, it is in the minutes. I don't understand why we are cutting them out when other businesses, other entities and other non-profits got money.

Mr. Fricilone stated I don't know who committed money to them, but we did not as a group. They are not businesses, they are social clubs. If they had employees they could have applied for the PPP and if they did not do that or did not get that, then maybe they did not qualify under those guidelines.

Mr. Harris stated I think the case can be made the Elks are a business. Along with the example Ms. Ventura gave, I am getting requests from businesses that did not apply for whatever reason. I am not opposed to revisiting that and getting a process in place. How can we address those type of requests or do we need to address them on a case-by-case basis? I have been referring businesses to the general e-mail. I am not sure what type of feedback we have received to know what the needs are. That is why I am open to considering it and getting a process in place to evaluate those requests. The Elks Lodge in Ms. Ventura's district might be a special case, because it did not fit the mold of the non-profits.

Mr. Davis stated there are about 150, 501-c-8s in Will County.

Mr. Moustis stated as far as the extension of fraternal organizations, I think it was a matter of we did not know if we were going to have funding to fund them. There was a prioritization process. We have a little bit of money left in CARES if we want to go back and look. The same thing with the businesses. I think there was some money left.

Mr. Lynch stated from the original allocation there is about \$3 million left.

Mr. Moustis continued we moved money to the corporate fund based on the information we had. Because the program was ending we did not know if it would be extended. I would be okay with going back to the original allocation for businesses to see if we missed some. If there is money left then we can consider other non-profits and include some fraternal organizations.

Ms. Newquist indicated she would be willing to revisit the issue and asked if Bronner could supply a list of the organizations that fall into the fraternal category.

Mr. Davis replied yes. I would be happy to share a list of all of those registered with a Will County that are a 501-c of some designation.

Mr. Moustis stated as long as they understand there are guidelines; it is for COVID related items such as PPE. We still have restrictions on how the money can be used.

Mr. Davis stated they should meet the terms it is COVID related, which I think these entities have been affected and the timelines has been extended to December 31, 2021. They would have to be within those constraints and a few other.

Ms. Ventura stated even if all 150 applied and got the \$2,000; that is still only \$300,000. I don't imagine all 150 will apply because you mentioned having physical locations and has to be affected by COVID. If you have \$3 million left and this is less than \$300,000 it is worth looking at in my opinion.

Mr. Fricilone stated we have \$800,000 left.

Mr. Moustis stated my guess would be 50 or less will apply.

Mr. Harris stated we used ACCION to work with the small businesses and I believe their contract expired or is to end soon. If we move forward we would have to extend the contract or get another contract in place?

Mr. Davis stated Bronner did the non-profits and ACCION did the business. I think this would fall under the non-profits.

Mr. Fricilone stated let's see the list at the next meeting and we can talk about then.

Mr. Moustis asked Mr. Mock this money has been moved to the corporate fund. Will we have restrictions on how corporate money can be used? I think we do. If we wanted to do more business support, would we have any restrictions moving money back into CARES? They are technical questions, but I think it is important that you let us know now that this money is in the corporate fund if there are potential restrictions on how it can be used.

Mr. Mock replied now that it is in the corporate fund your restrictions are the normal restrictions you would have to use any corporate funds. Mrs. Tatroe and I talked about this and looked up the various statutes. I don't think you have the ability to move the money back to CARES because there is nothing in the powers and duties of the county to grant money back to the federal government and that is basically what you would be doing. The money put into the corporate fund, we followed the normal corporate rules. You have \$843,000 and it sounds like there is another \$3 million from the business portion of the CARES Relief fund that has not been expended. You don't have to leave it in the business portion, you could reallocate it within those CARES monies anyway you need to do it.

Mr. Moustis stated I believe the \$3 million was moved to the corporate fund.

Mr. Mock stated if it was moved there it is still in the corporate and you are stuck with whatever the corporate fund rules are. There are rules within corporate that allow you to expend for public health and if that is what we are talking about, you could probably do it.

Mr. Moustis stated this needs to be discussed at the Finance Committee.

Mr. Fricilone stated no, we are talking about CARES money and that is the CARES Committee.

Mr. Moustis stated you are talking about the \$800,000 and I'm talking about if you wanted to put more money into a business support program.

Mr. Fricilone stated that is not the CARES Committee.

Mr. Moustis stated I am trying to address Mr. Harris' concerns about continuing some business support. It looks like the only thing we can do from CARES is the \$800,000.

Mr. Harris stated that is what I am thinking also. Part of that \$800,000 could be used, if we want to address the C-8 non-profits. It would have to come out of that money.

Mr. Palmer stated I was listening to Mr. Mock and perhaps I misunderstood. The money that is in the corporate, whatever is left as we talked about at the beginning of this meeting, can be appropriated for a variety of things as long as what Mr. Mock said, it cites the statutory authority that allows us to do that.

Mr. Mock replied you are correct, you can use it for anything.

Mr. Palmer continued hypothetically, if we wanted to put more money into businesses, non-profits or food and shelter and it is in the corporate fund we would appropriate it out of the corporate, cite the statutory authority and put it into the program. It is defederalize CARES money. It is still available, it has not disappeared. It is on the corporate side rather than the CARES side.

Mr. Mock stated the difference is we have to find the statutory authority in our Illinois Compiled Statutes versus under the CARES Act. Under the CARES Act we were using the federal authority to spend it.

Ms. Newquist asked does it give us more flexibility to move it back? Are we not allowed to do that?

Mr. Mock replied you have more flexibility in corporate because CARES was pretty limited. I don't think you have the legal authority to move it back. If you put the money back and it had to go back to the federal government as a whole, it does not go back as your little pocket of CARES money. You have already spent your little pocket of CARES money by putting it in your corporate fund.

Ms. Hennessy stated the only option we have for getting money back into the CARES fund is to adjust the public safety reimbursement we did. The window is shutting quickly because we are going to be closing our fiscal year, that happened in FY2020. We could amend that to make it smaller or bigger. I think we are too far down the road to go back to that now. Everyone seemed confused when we brought that up initially. I agree with Mr. Mock, we should do it out of the corporate fund. If you want to do that, Mrs. Tatroe said when we were complicating doing the public safety reimbursement, she found everything we were talking about continuing in statute that allowed us to do that. We can't put it back. If you are not willing to readjust the public safety reimbursement, that is the only mechanism to put the money back into the CARES fund.

Mr. Harris stated we need to have the small business and the non-profits C-8's onto the Finance Committee agenda.

Mr. Fricilone stated there is \$800,000 in the CARES fund, if we want, but we need to see the list.

Mr. Harris stated we will get the list and make a decision at our next meeting.

Mr. Mock stated you can put it on your agenda for the next meeting and you can vote on it because it is on the agenda.

Mr. Moustis stated if you want to put anything on the Finance Committee agenda, you have to do it by tomorrow.

Mr. Harris stated we will leave it on this agenda.

Discussion took place regarding the next meeting date. The decision was February 11, 2021 at 2:30 p.m.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mrs. Jakaitis read the following e-mail into the record.

From: Jared Ploger
Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2021 4:09 PM
To: CB Public Comment <publiccomment@willcountyillinois.com>
 <<mailto:publiccomment@willcountyillinois.com>>>
Subject: Comment about meeting tonight

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

My name is Jared Ploger and I live at Aurora, IL 60503 Wheatland Township. I am writing to you in regards to vaccine delivery to education staff in the county. I want to make it clear no teachers are complaining about not being FIRST on the delivery list. That is NOT our issue. Just that there is transparency so those in government can discuss and ask questions. So here are the facts.

Those educators in the South and Eastern part of the County are already receiving shots. Joliet's two largest districts are either remote for the rest of the year or remote until March.

Joliet has set up a triage to deliver to their teachers already.

The county's two largest school districts Valley View and Plainfield still have nothing set up.

Now, if you are fine with that, then please discuss and be transparent. If not, let's be honest and have an honest discussion. That is all I am asking for. I am not qualified to make a plan. I am not qualified to oversee a Health Department. But as a citizen, it is my right to ask all of you to be transparent about this and discuss.

Thank you for your time.

Mrs. Adams announced there were no other public comments.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS BY CHAIR

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION

XI. ADJOURNMENT

1. Motion to Adjourn at 4:57 PM

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jim Moustis, District 2 (R - Frankfort)
SECONDER:	Mike Fricilone, District 7 (R - Homer Glen)
AYES:	Harris, Fricilone, Koch, Moustis, Newquist