

Kennebec County, Maine

Special Meeting – American Rescue Plan Act
Application Review - Minutes May 19, 2022
77 Winthrop St. Augusta Maine



Present:

Patsy Crockett, Commissioner (Chair)
Nancy Rines, Commissioner
George Jabar, Commissioner (virtual)
Scott Ferguson, County Administrator
Cindi Ferguson CPA, Finance Director
Sean Goodwin, EMA Director
Art True, EMA Deputy Director

Stephen Whitney, Senior Manager, BerryDunn
Zeb Letourneau, Senior Consultant, BerryDunn
Alan Goodwin, Consultant, BerryDunn

	Discussion	Action
Call to Order & Pledge of Alegience	1:05 PM	
BerryDunn Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Zeb Letourneau opened the meeting explaining the handout which catalogued the ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) applications which included the risk assessment scoring. The scoring was solely based on the documentation received from each applicant with clarifying communication with the applicants if needed. ➤ Mr. Letourneau also went over the scoring criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mr. Letourneau addressed the question of what a “negative economic impact” meant as defined by the “Final Treasury Rule” guidance. ➤ Each project was reviewed in alphabetical order and the scoring criteria was discussed for each project. ➤ The Commissioner’s weighed in on what they knew about each project adding information for consideration to the scoring criteria for their own and across districts. ➤ EMA, Mr. Goodwin and Mr. True, we very helpful in providing additional information on infrastructure projects and those applications that impacted emergency services. ➤ It was decided that \$2.5M would held in reserve to address any unanticipated issues that may arise after these initial applications are finalized, agreements written, monitoring put in place (Federal Reporting Requirements), and funds distributed. 	

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	Discussion	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ At the end of the review approximately \$1.1M was over-appropriated (selected applications to move forward). There will be a second meeting to constrain applications to the available balance either through reductions of funding amounts, or striking of programs; this will be decided at the next meeting. ➤ Mr. Whitney mentioned that the defunding of certain projects may not be something the Commissioners would like to do, and reductions may be a better alternative. ➤ Administrator Ferguson indicated that after the Commissioners have identified which applications are to be funded (and amounts), BerryDunn will send correspondence to each applicant to verify that the project is still viable and funding is still needed. If they are, we will move to the contract phase. ➤ Mr. Letourneau verified that each contract will be unique to each applicant as they are all different in the areas of the Final Treasury Rule they are addressing, how/ who is managing them, and the scope of the project in several cases are unique. ➤ Mr. Goodwin kept a running total of applications the Commissioners agreed should move forward as well as questions that were asked by the Commissioners of each project. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Approved applications exceeded designated funding by approximately \$1M. ○ It was decided that another meeting is needed to review the approved applications once more and reduce overall funding to the designated funding amount. ➤ BerryDunn will be following up on these questions in the next week and will provide answers to the Commissioners when applicants have responded. 	
Public Comment	➤ None	
Adjournment	➤ Adjourned at 4:35 PM	3 in favor 0 opposed
Motions	➤ None	

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ARPA Scoring Criteria – Final Treasury Rule Driven

Weight	Question 1 20%	Question 2 15%	Question 3 15%	Question 4 15%	Question 5 10%	Question 6 10%	Question 7 15%
Score	Demonstrates economic impact and return on investment potential	Has available resources to complete the project.	Has potential for long-term impact	Serves a broad segment of the population	Lack of other reasonable means to complete the project (i.e. other funding)	Applicant demonstrated economic harm due to COVID-19	Level of risk from <i>Applicant Questionnaire</i> and responses to County follow ups.
3	The economic impact and return on investment is high and will benefit the County. Aligns with the County's needs.	No additional funding is needed, or applicant has acquired all needed funding.	Life of potential impact is > 10 years.	Potential to serve > 75% of population	This project can only be funded by ARPA funds.	Applicant demonstrated a large economic harm due to COVID-19.	Low Risk
2	The economic impact and return on investment is moderate and will slightly impact the County.	Additional funding is more than likely to be acquired.	Life of potential impact is 1 - 10 years.	Potential to serve 25% - 75% of population	This project could be funded partly by ARPA and there is a lack of other means of funding to complete this project.	Mild economic harm due to COVID-19.	Moderate Risk
1	There is low economic impact and the return on investment is low.	Project will more than likely not be completed without further acquiring further funding.	Life of potential impact is < 1 year.	Potential to serve < 25% of population	This project could be funded by other sources (IUA, unassigned fund balance, other grants / loans).	No economic harm due to COVID-19.	High Risk

Note: A score of 3 represents the highest score applicants can receive

Submitted: Scott Ferguson, County Administrator