

**RESOLUTION  
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Supervisor Genia Stevens and  
Supervisor Stephanie Aegerter  
INITIATED BY



Josh Smith  
DRAFTED BY

Planning & Development Committee  
SUBMITTED BY

September 15, 2021  
DATE DRAFTED

**Authorizing Additional Uses of Computer Equipment through the Rock County  
Small Business and Nonprofit Grant Program**

1 **WHEREAS**, the Rock County Board of Supervisors, in Resolution 21-7A-283, created a American  
2 Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Small Business and Nonprofit Grant Program to assist small businesses and  
3 nonprofits recover from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic; and,  
4

5 **WHEREAS**, this program includes partnering with the Arrowhead Library System (ALS) to make  
6 business planning resources available through the seven public libraries in Rock County; and  
7

8 **WHEREAS**, as part of this program, computer hardware, including laptops and hotspots, are to be made  
9 available to small business owners who don't have access to the internet or technology needed to develop  
10 a business development and sustainability plan; and,  
11

12 **WHEREAS**, some ALS-member libraries have already received some grant funding to make a limited  
13 amount of computer equipment available to County residents who lack internet access or technology for a  
14 variety of other purposes, such as education, business, or personal needs; and,  
15

16 **WHEREAS**, the residents of Rock County would be well served by increasing the amount of computer  
17 equipment available to address these needs, and not just limiting use to business planning; and  
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19 **WHEREAS**, allowing technology to be made more widely available will make for easier administration  
20 by member libraries while still providing sufficient resources to small business owners; and  
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22 **WHEREAS**, ALS-member libraries estimate that approximately 53 laptops, 46 hotspots (with related  
23 service contracts), and related hardware and accessories would be sufficient as an initial estimate to serve  
24 both small business owners and the general population in need; and  
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26 **WHEREAS**, the estimated cost for these purchases is approximately \$100,000 over the life of the  
27 program that would end when ARPA funding is no longer available at the end of 2024, and sufficient  
28 funding is available as provided through Resolution 21-7A-283; and  
29

30 **WHEREAS**, access to the internet and technology has been an acute need during the COVID-19  
31 pandemic and is an approved use of ARPA funds.  
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33 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled  
34 this 23rd day of September, 2021, does hereby authorize the expanded use of computer  
35 hardware and related costs previously authorized in Resolution 21-7A-283 to allow Arrowhead Library  
36 System member libraries to loan such equipment to any Rock County resident in need of internet access  
37 or technology.

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Respectfully submitted,

**PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

/s/Alan Sweeney  
Alan Sweeney, Chair

/s/Wayne Gustina  
Wayne Gustina, Vice-Chair

/s/J. Russell Podzilni  
J. Russell Podzilni

/s/Wes Davis  
Wes Davis

/s/Robert Potter  
Robert Potter

LEGAL NOTE:

The County Board is authorized to take this action pursuant to secs. 59.01 & 59.51, Wis. Stats.

s/Richard Greenlee

Richard Greenlee  
Corporation Counsel

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Authorizing the use of computer hardware for the additional purposes outlined in the resolution will make administration easier for library staff and expand the usefulness of the program to all County residents. This use is consistent with ARPA grant regulations.

/s/Josh Smith

Josh Smith  
County Administrator

FISCAL NOTE:

This resolution allows more funds already allocated in 21-7A-283 to be used for computer equipment. This resolution does not appropriate any additional ARPA funds.

/s/Sherry Oja

Sherry Oja  
Finance Director