

NEON Minutes July 01, 2020, via Zoom

Nobles County Administrator, Tom Johnson, presided over the meeting.

CARES Act Funding:

- Received \$2.7 million in funds; distribution spreadsheet was emailed to the group.
- Funds must be COVID-19 related and reasonably necessary, cannot be revenue replacement.
- Costs must be incurred between March 1, 2020 and December 30, 2020.
- Each entity needs to accept the funds, even if you aren't sure if you can use all of the funds, advise to accept the funds so you have them if you need them.
- Explain in detail what your hardship was.
- **Documentation** needs to be kept and detailed as to what expenses were covered.
- Funds need to be distributed by entities by November 1 and transfer extra money to the County; the County then has until November 15 to distribute that money.
- No definition has been given on small business – will be looked into to define.
- AMC has provided some training to counties – hopefully more to come.
- A worksheet is being worked on for consistency throughout the county.
- It is expected that any entity who receives more than \$750,000 will be subject to an audit.
- Not meant to replace revenue but to replace COVID related expenses.
- A separate bank account is not needed for the funds but separate account codes are encouraged to keep the funds separate.
- It is still being looked into if animal depopulation would be refunded.
- FEMA money would still be available to use but it is encouraged to use the CARES Act money first if possible.
- At least 10% of the money needs to be used for businesses.
- Townships are able to transfer their money back to the county.
- This is ever evolving – all entities need to prepare for future outbreaks as well. Think ahead!
- Not only a reimbursement can be used for current or future purchases.

Questions:

- Can Non-profits and churches can apply? We are not sure at this time, Tom will reach out to try and get an answer.

Follow Up:

- We will work on scheduling a joint meeting and look for a representative from each entity to attend.
- Will also continue to create a consistent document for reimbursable items. (looking at examples from Albert Lea, Park Rapids and from a NACo presentation)

NEON group next meeting: Weekly meetings to discuss CARES Act Funding.

Zoom Information will be the same from week to week:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86321677542>

Phone Number: 1 312 626 6799

Meeting ID: 863-2167-7542

Password: No Password, just hit #