

**RESOLUTION
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Board of Health
INITIATED BY



Michelle Bailey
DRAFTED BY

Board of Health
SUBMITTED BY

February 24, 2021
DATE DRAFTED

**Accepting Wisconsin Lead-Safe Homes Program Grant and
Amending the 2021 Rock County Public Health Department Budget**

1 **WHEREAS**, childhood lead poisoning continues to be a significant public health issue in Rock County;
2 and lead-based paint in older homes continues to be the main source of exposure; and approximately
3 42,000 dwelling units in Rock County were built before 1978, the year lead-based was banned for use in
4 residential settings; and,
5

6 **WHEREAS**, the Rock County Public Health Department (RCPHD) is mandated to identify sources of
7 exposure in high level childhood poisoning cases; and the RCPHD has and continues to provide
8 assessment services for local housing rehabilitation grants and programs aimed at reducing sources of
9 lead exposure; and,
10

11 **WHEREAS**, a X-ray fluorescence (XRF) device is a necessary tool for efficient and non-destructive
12 analysis of housing components to determine lead (Pb) concentrations and hazards; and the XRF currently
13 utilized by RCPHD staff is nearing the end of its usable life; and,
14

15 **WHEREAS**, the Wisconsin Lead-Safe Homes Program Grant will provide funding to purchase a new XRF.
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17 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled
18 this 11th day of March, 2021 does hereby authorize the Rock County Public Health
19 Department to accept this Lead-Safe Homes Program Grant in the amount of \$22,595, and amend the
20 2021 Rock County Public Health Department Budget as follows:
21

<u>Account/Description</u>	<u>Budget 3/1/2021</u>	<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>	<u>Amended Budget</u>
<u>Source of Funds</u>			
31-3114-0000-42200 State Aid	-0-	\$22,595	\$22,595
<u>Use of Funds</u>			
31-3114-0000-67120 Capital Assets	-0-	\$22,595	\$22,595

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Respectfully submitted,

BOARD OF HEALTH

/s/Lou Peer
Louis Peer, Chair

/s/Dr. Connie Winter, DDS
Dr. Connie Winter, DDS, Vice Chair

/s/Doug Wilde
Supervisor Doug Wilde

/s/Shirley Williams
Supervisor Shirley Williams

/s/Eric Gresens
Eric Gresens, R.PH

/s/Dr. Kaitlyn Meyers
Dr. Kaitlyn Meyers, DVM, MPH

/s/Danette Rynes
Supervisor Danette Rynes

/s/Dr. Vijaya Somaraju
Dr. Vijaya Somaraju, MD, MPH, FACP

/s/Debra Kolste
Debra Kolste

FINANCE COMMITTEE ENDORSEMENT

Reviewed and approved on a vote of 5-0

/s/Mary Mawhinney 3/11/2021
Mary Mawhinney, Chair Date

FISCAL NOTE:

This resolution authorizes the acceptance and expenditure of state aid for the purchase of a lead analysis device. No County funds are required.

/s/ Sherry Oja

Sherry Oja
Finance Director

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Recommended.

/s/Josh Smith

Josh Smith
County Administrator

LEGAL NOTE:

The County Board is authorized to accept grant funds pursuant to § 59.52(19), Wis. Stats. As an amendment to the adopted 2021 County Budget, this Resolution requires a 2/3 vote of the entire membership of the County Board pursuant to § 65.90(5)(a), Wis. Stats.

/s/Richard Greenlee

Richard Greenlee
Corporation Counsel

Executive Summary

Lead-based paint in older homes is the primary source of childhood lead poisoning in Wisconsin and Rock County. Although there have been great strides in reducing the poisoning rates, Rock County continues to have a significant number of cases each year due to the high number of older houses. Lead-based paint was commonly used in residential homes until it was banned in 1978 and there are approximately 42,000 pre-1978 homes in Rock County with potential lead hazards. The prevalence of lead paint hazards and childhood poisoning cases has had a disproportionate effect on children from low-income and minority facilities within our communities.

Children are most often exposed to lead through debris and contaminated dust that originates from older deteriorating lead-based paint. Lead may interfere with a child's development and exposure greatly increases the risk of mental or physical development issues. Research has shown that even low levels of exposure can result in learning deficits.

The Rock County Public Health Department (RCPHD) is mandated to conduct assessments to identify hazards on residences of children that have been identified as having an Elevated Blood Lead Level. These are also completed for partner agencies that have home rehabilitation grants and programs designed to abate potential lead hazards in homes.

The X-ray fluorescence analyzer (XRF) is the standard testing device used by regulatory agencies and industry professionals to identify the lead concentration in paint and other surface coatings. This is a necessary tool that provides a cost-effective, efficient, and non-destructive method to identify existing and potential lead hazards.

The current XRF utilized by the RCPHD is nearing the end of its usable life due to the natural decay of the radioactive source it needs to identify the element lead (Pb). The Wisconsin Lead-Safe Homes Program grant will provide the funding necessary to fully purchase and license a new XRF.