

**RESOLUTION  
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Planning & Development Committee  
INITIATED BY



James Otterstein  
DRAFTED BY

Planning & Development Committee  
SUBMITTED BY

April 2, 2020  
DATE DRAFTED

**ESTABLISHING THE ROCK COUNTY COVID-19 EMERGENCY SMALL BUSINESS LOAN FUND**

1 **WHEREAS**, the COVID-19 global pandemic has created severe economic hardships on the local, state  
2 and national economies; and

3  
4 **WHEREAS**, the State of Wisconsin and its counterparts throughout the nation have imposed mandated  
5 social distancing and safer at home policies as measures to protect the public's health by containing or  
6 curtailing the spread of the Coronavirus; and

7  
8 **WHEREAS**, the implementation of these necessary policies has disrupted the economic repositioning,  
9 revitalization and resurgence that Rock County has experienced since recovering from the Great  
10 Recession; and

11  
12 **WHEREAS**, these mandated public health policies are negatively impacting Rock County small  
13 businesses; and

14  
15 **WHEREAS**, nearly 85% of the more than 3,370 businesses in Rock County are small businesses with less  
16 than 20 employees; and

17  
18 **WHEREAS**, these small businesses need access to affordable and flexible capital to stabilize, sustain,  
19 strengthen or restart those operations impacted by COVID-19, and that said capital may serve as a bridge  
20 or conduit to secure longer-term, permanent sources of capital; and

21  
22 **WHEREAS**, the County of Rock has a responsibility, as well as an opportunity, to assist the County's  
23 business community's recovery efforts during these extraordinary times; and

24  
25 **WHEREAS**, the County Board of Supervisors has reviewed the need for a Rock County COVID-19  
26 Emergency Small Business Loan Fund and the countywide economic benefits gained therefrom.

27  
28 **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled this  
29 9<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2020, authorizes and approves the formation of the Rock County COVID-19  
30 Emergency Small Business Loan Fund, in an amount of \$1,000,000 (One Million Dollars), and an  
31 administrative fund in the amount of \$50,000 that will be used to procure an administrative platform on  
32 which to apply for loans, to secure the services of experts who may be needed to provide supporting  
33 services, and other functions as approved.

34  
35 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the County Board Chair delegates the administrative, fiscal and  
36 program management of this Rock County COVID-19 Emergency Small Business Loan Fund to the  
37 County's Planning, Economic and Community Development Department.

38  
39 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that program oversight, policy, and loan decision making authority be  
40 granted to a seven-member Rock County COVID-19 Emergency Small Business Loan Fund Committee,  
41 consisting of four County Board Supervisors and three members of the public, all appointed by the Chair  
42 of the Rock County Board of Supervisors for a period of time deemed necessary to address, respond or  
43 recover from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

44  
45 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Emergency Small Business Loan Fund Committee is  
46 empowered to direct and approve expenditures from the Administrative Fund and, at its discretion, direct  
47 staff to develop an agreement with a third-party(s) to administer these funds on the County's behalf or  
48 for other services as needed.

49  
50 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the 2020 Planning and Development Department Budget be  
51 amended as follows:

20-4A-441

ESTABLISHING THE ROCK COUNTY COVID-19 EMERGENCY SMALL BUSINESS LOAN FUND

	<u>Account/Description</u>	<u>Budget at 1/1/2020</u>	<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>	<u>Amended Budget</u>
52				
53				
54	64-6446-0000-47500	-0-	\$1,050,000	\$1,050,000
55	Prior Year Sales Tax Revenue			
56				
57	64-6446-0000-63110	-0-	\$50,000	\$50,000
58	Administrative Expense			
59				
60	64-6446-0000-64914	-0-	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
61	Small Business Loans			

Respectfully submitted,

PLANING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

FINANCE COMMITTEE ENDORSEMENT

\_\_\_\_\_  
Alan Sweeney, Chair

Reviewed and Approved on a vote of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary Mawhinney, Vice Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary Mawhinney, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Wes Davis

\_\_\_\_\_  
Wayne Gustina

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phillip Owens

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Recommended.

*/s/ Josh Smith*

Josh Smith  
County Administrator

FISCAL NOTE:

This resolution authorizes the transfer in of \$1,050,000 in excess sales tax revenue collected in prior years. The current balance of excess sales tax revenue collected in prior years is \$1,095,213. Loan repayments will be used to replenish the sales tax revenue fund balance.

*/s/ Sherry Oja*

Sherry Oja  
Finance Director

LEGAL NOTE:

The County Board is authorized to take this action pursuant to sections 59.01, 59.51 and 59.57, Wis. Stats., as well as Rule IV-C of the County Board Rules. As an amendment to the adopted 2020 County Budget, this Resolution requires a 2/3 vote of the entire membership of the County Board pursuant to sec. 65.90(5)(a), Wis. Stats.

*/s/ Richard Greenlee*

Richard Greenlee  
Corporation Counsel

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, social distancing and safer at home policies have negatively impacted the local, state and national economies. Consequently, communities across the nation are aggressively developing, replicating or reallocating funds to aid small businesses when and where appropriate. Therefore, the purpose of the Rock County COVID-19 Emergency Small Business Loan Fund is to assist small businesses in Rock County that are experiencing documented financial difficulties that are directly attributed to the global COVID-19 pandemic.

While the program is open to all for-profit, private-sector businesses that are considered in good standing and not operating as home-based businesses, funding will be prioritized for service producing businesses – particularly those that are independent (i.e. non-franchise) and businesses that support the hospitality and business services sectors, respectively. Additional priority will be weighted toward businesses that are seeking bridge financing to help stabilize, sustain, strengthen or restart their operations.

Funding will be capped at \$20,000 per applicant; and it will be structured as a low-interest (i.e. one-percent), working capital loan. An appointed, seven member Rock County COVID-19 Emergency Small Business Loan Fund Committee will have program oversight, policy and loan decision making authority. Meanwhile, the County's Planning, Economic and Community Development Department will be responsible for providing administrative, fiscal and program management support.