

**RESOLUTION
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Planning and Development Agency
INITIATED BY



Paul Benjamin
DRAFTED BY

Planning and Development Agency
SUBMITTED BY

March 30, 2012
DATE DRAFTED

**Authorizing Application for 2011-12 Community Development Block Grant
(CDBG) Public Facilities Grant**

1 **WHEREAS**, The Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) offers Community
2 Development Block Grant (CDBG) capital expenditure funding for the purpose of constructing physical
3 facilities that will add or prevent the loss of basic services that benefit low-and moderate income persons
4 and are perceived to enhance a community's quality of life. This funding is made available only to local
5 units of government in non-entitlement areas of the State of Wisconsin, and
6

7 **WHEREAS**, Edgerton Community Outreach (ECO) provides programs and services to low income
8 families in northern Rock County and works to improve funding and services for all human service
9 agencies in Rock County and,
10

11 **WHEREAS**, the City of Edgerton, through the adoption of the Downtown Master plan and the creation
12 of the Downtown Redevelopment District, a Redevelopment Authority and a TIF district, has invested
13 significant time and resources into downtown redevelopment. Two stated objectives of the City of
14 Edgerton Downtown Master Plan are, to preserve the historic tobacco warehouses, and to retain
15 institutional uses in the downtown. Edgerton Community Outreach, located in a tobacco warehouse
16 which was donated to them by the City, is an invaluable local institution providing services to northern
17 Rock County citizens and vibrancy to Edgerton's downtown, and,
18

19 **WHEREAS**, on February 10, 2012 the Rock County Planning and Development Agency received a
20 request by the City of Edgerton and Edgerton Community Outreach, Inc. to submit a CDBG Public
21 Facilities grant application as part of ECO's process to renovate the building at 106 South Main Street,
22 and,
23

24 **WHEREAS**, CDBG funds will be utilized to renovate the historic tobacco warehouse into usable space
25 to expand the Food Pantry, Client Service offices, and Thrift Store as well as to make the building
26 accessible according to the Americans with Disabilities Act, and,
27

28 **WHEREAS**, ECO has partnered with Cedar Corporation, an agency with extensive knowledge of the
29 CDBG Program, to write the grant application and to assist with all aspects of the grant administration to
30 minimize expenses incurred by Rock County. ECO will compensate Cedar Corporation for their work,
31 including pre-application work. Rock County will not be held responsible for compensating Cedar
32 Corporation in the event the application for funding is denied.
33

34 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled
35 this 12th day of April, 2012, does hereby authorize Rock County Planning and
36 Development Agency to submit a grant application for up to \$500,000 of funding from the Wisconsin
37 Economic Development Corporation for a Community Development Block Grant – Public Facilities
38 grant.

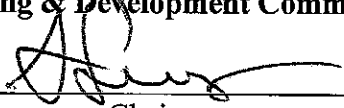
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Authorizing Application for 2011-12 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Public Facilities Grant

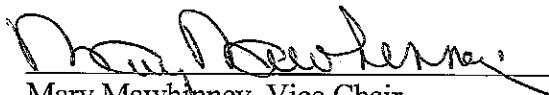
Page 2

Respectfully submitted,

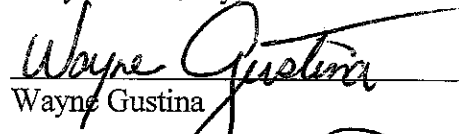
Planning & Development Committee



Alan Sweeney, Chair



Mary Mawhinney, Vice Chair



Wayne Gustina



Marilyn Jensen



Phillip Owens

FISCAL NOTE:

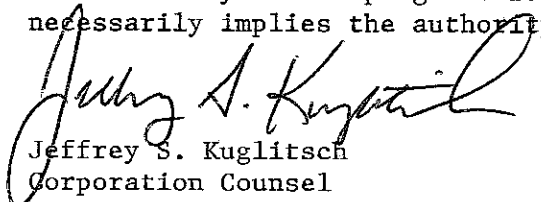
This resolution only authorizes an application for a grant and, therefore, has no fiscal impact at this time. If a grant is awarded, a subsequent resolution would be required to accept the grant and amend the budget.



Sherry Oja
Finance Director

LEGAL NOTE:

The authority to accept grant funds pursuant to sec. 59.52(19), Wis. Stats., necessarily implies the authority to make application for such funds.



Jeffrey S. Kuglitsch
Corporation Counsel

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Recommended.



Craig Knutson
County Administrator

Executive Summary

Edgerton Community Outreach, Inc. (ECO), a non-profit community service organization, provides programs and services that help low to moderate-income people. ECO is requesting the Rock County Planning and Development Agency to submit a Community Development Block Grant Public Facilities application to the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation to partially fund ECO's renovation of their current office, a three-story historic tobacco warehouse in downtown Edgerton at 106 South Main Street. ECO has grown significantly over the last 10 years and the 6,000 square feet currently available is no longer sufficient for their needs. The lower and upper levels are not occupied at this time, as they are neither accessible nor finished. When renovation is complete, their facility will have an additional 18,000 square feet of usable space.

ECO's current programs include the Food Pantry, Emergency Motel Vouchers, the Lawton Street 2-Unit Transitional Living Home, Rental Assistance to Prevent Homelessness, Energy Bill Payment Assistance, seasonal programs for Edgerton area youth, and many other seasonal programs that benefit the community of Edgerton. The ECO service territory includes Evansville and Milton and the smaller communities that are in the northern Rock County area. The population that ECO serves is 100% low to moderate income households. ECO staff is active in the Rock County Homeless Intervention Task Force and other county coalitions that are striving to end homelessness in Rock County.

The City of Edgerton, through the adoption of the Downtown Master plan and the creation of the Downtown Redevelopment District, a Redevelopment Authority and a TIF district, has invested significant time and resources into downtown redevelopment. Two stated objectives of the City of Edgerton Downtown Master Plan are, to preserve the historic tobacco warehouses, and to retain institutional uses in the downtown. Edgerton Community Outreach, located in a tobacco warehouse which was donated to them by the City, is an invaluable local institution providing services to northern Rock County citizens and vibrancy to Edgerton's downtown.

The application to the Economic Development Corporation will include a request for \$500,000, which will fund 63% of the total cost of the renovation project. ECO has privately raised \$200,000 for this project and will secure private financing if the additional \$100,000 is not raised over the course of the next 12 months.

The City of Edgerton and ECO requests that Rock County enter into a cooperative agreement with Edgerton Community Outreach, Inc. and Cedar Corporation. ECO has contracted with Cedar Corporation to complete all the application materials for the grant; Rock County will not be responsible for application expenses. Cedar Corporation has extensive experience in CDBG grant administration, including the writing of successful proposals through the closeout of the project in compliance with all applicable state, federal and local regulations.