



Coronavirus Ad Hoc Committee
September 29, 2021 – 4:00 PM
Council Chambers

Yvonne McBride	Paul Livingston	Joe Walker	Gretchen Barron, Chair	Chakisse Newton
District 3	District 4	District 6	District 7	District 10

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Approval of Minutes: September 13, 2021** [UNDER SEPARATE COVER]
3. **Adoption of Agenda**
4. **Emergency Rental Assistance Program - 2 Update** [PAGES 2-3]
5. **COVID-19 Vaccine Mandate for County Staff** [PAGE 4]
6. **Community Outreach and Awareness Efforts**
 - a. **Incentive Program** [PAGES 5-16]
 - b. **Infomercial**
7. **American Rescue Plan Funding:**
 - a. **Premium Pay** [PAGES 17-18]
 - b. **Safety and Security Equipment** [PAGES 19-28]
8. **Adjournment**



Agenda Briefing

Prepared by:	Aric A Jensen, AICP	Title:	Assistant County Administrator	
Department:	Administration	Division:		
Date Prepared:	September 21, 2021	Meeting Date:	September 29, 2021	
Legal Review	Elizabeth McLean via email	Date:	September 23, 2021	
Budget Review	James Hayes via email	Date:	September 21, 2021	
Finance Review	Stacey Hamm via email	Date:	September 21, 2021	
Approved for consideration:	County Administrator	Leonardo Brown, MBA, CPM		
Committee	Coronavirus Ad Hoc			
Subject:	American Rescue Plan Grant Management Software			

STAFF'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Staff recommends using American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding to pay for grant management software.

Request for Council Reconsideration: Yes

FIDUCIARY:

Are funds allocated in the department's current fiscal year budget?		Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
If no, is a budget amendment necessary?		Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No

ADDITIONAL FISCAL/BUDGETARY MATTERS TO CONSIDER:

None.

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE FEEDBACK/POSSIBLE AREA(S) OF LEGAL EXPOSURE:

None.

REGULATORY COMPLIANCE:

None applicable.

MOTION OF ORIGIN:

There is no associated Council motion of origin.

Council Member	
Meeting	
Date	

STRATEGIC & GENERATIVE DISCUSSION:

In any given year, Richland County receives, distributes, and/or otherwise administers in excess of \$100M of grant funds. This is accomplished through a variety of software and manual accounting processes, and by multiple departments. A performance analysis conducted by Administration in September 2021 makes the following observations:

1. Budgeting, finance, and grant management staff are not all using the same software to manage, process, and track information. This is both inefficient and increases the likelihood of errors.
2. The County is currently at risk of losing federal grant funds because of an inability to spend them in a timely fashion – this includes funds that have already been awarded, and funds that are conditionally allocated for future budget years. In FY 22, “use or lose” grant funds are in excess of \$50M and include ARP, Disaster Relief, and similar programs.
3. The majority of federal, state, and local grant programs include an element of past performance in their award/review criteria.
4. There are three primary factors affecting the County’s current grant management performance: internal processes, staffing levels, and management software.

Industry standard best management practices, including LEAN and Six Sigma, stress the importance of compatibility, consistency, and communication within and across departments/operational units. Having a single grant management software package that would be utilized by all departments and that would transfer financial and qualitative data seamlessly between grant managers, budget/finance auditors, and accounts payable/receivable staff would dramatically increase efficiency and accuracy. Furthermore, it would improve performance and make the organization more competitive for future awards. Lastly, it would enhance the County’s image and provide improved service to its customers.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FOR CONSIDERATION:

None.

ATTACHMENTS:

North Charleston first responders sue city over COVID-19 vaccine mandate

CHARLESTON COUNTY NEWS

by: [Chase Laudenslager](#)

Posted: Sep 13, 2021 / 03:16 PM EDT / Updated: Sep 13, 2021 / 11:02 PM EDT

NORTH CHARLESTON, S.C. (WCBD) – A lawsuit filed Monday on behalf of 14 [current] City of North Charleston employees alleges that the city’s recently imposed COVID-19 vaccine mandate is unconstitutional.

The case was brought by a group of first responders, including longtime members of the North Charleston Police and Fire Departments, after [Mayor Keith Summey issued a requirement](#) that all city employees get the COVID-19 vaccine by November 5.

According to the complaint, the plaintiffs believe that the mandate “violates the South Carolina Constitution, South Carolina common law, and the United States Constitution.” They claim that “Mayor Summey has placed Plaintiffs and all City employees in an untenable situation; forcing them to decide between their livelihoods and vindicating their statutory and constitutional rights is unconscionable and wrong.”

Likewise, the plaintiffs allege that the mandate violates their right to free speech, claiming that their “right to control their own medical destinies is both expressive speech in the form of opposition to the COVID-19 vaccine, and expressive conduct in opposition to the vaccine mandate.”

The group is “seeking a temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction to enjoin enforcement of the Mayor’s order.”

Editor’s note: This article has been corrected to reflect that the plaintiffs are current employees of the City of North Charleston.



7/30/2021

M E M O R A N D U M

To: Governors and Staff
From: Brittney Roy, Program Director for Public Health
Michelle LeBlanc, Public Health Policy Analyst
Re: COVID-19 Vaccine Incentives

Dear Governor,

The purpose of this memo is to provide an update on COVID-19 vaccine incentives developed to increase vaccination rates across the country. This memo includes information on state led incentives. Please note that vaccination incentives are a relatively novel topic in public policy, and it is not known to what extent incentives can drive increases in vaccinations, but there are some early indications that the right incentive can help.

State Incentives

Alabama

- The [Talladega Superspeedway](#) is offering people aged 16 and older who choose to be tested and/or vaccinated the thrill of driving their car or truck on the 2.66-mile track. Drivers and their riders will take two laps behind a pace car at highway speed, including the 33-degree-high banks.
- To promote vaccination, the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) is sponsoring a [TikTok contest](#) for persons between the ages of 13 and 29 to encourage vaccination against COVID-19 before the beginning of the school year. TikTok videos can be submitted between July 16 – August 6, 2021. A panel of judges composed of advertising professionals and ADPH personnel will select four winners who will each be awarded a \$250 Visa gift card.

Arkansas

- Executive branch state agency employees who get at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine by July 1 will receive a \$100 bonus.
- Starting [May 26](#), Arkansans who get a COVID-19 vaccination can receive a \$20 Arkansas [Game](#) and Fish certificate for fishing/hunting licenses or a \$20 [lottery](#) ticket that could win a million dollars.

California “[Vax for the Win](#)”

- 10 winners selected on June 15 to win cash prizes of \$1.5 million each. Any Californian ages 12 or over who has had at least one dose of the vaccine will be eligible to win -- no

entry necessary. If a minor wins, the funds will be put into a savings account until they turn 18;

- 30 winners selected on “\$50,000 Fridays.” Fifteen winners will be selected on June 4 and fifteen more will be chosen on June 11 to win a \$50,000 cash prize each. If a minor wins, the funds will be put into a savings account until they turn 18;
- The next 2 million Californians who begin and complete their COVID-19 vaccinations, starting Thursday, will be eligible to receive a \$50 virtual prepaid card or a \$50 grocery gift card for Kroger or Albertsons while supplies last.
- On July 1, California will give away 6 vacations, including hotels, food and entertainment for up to four.
 - See the Giants play in [San Francisco](#)
 - Enjoy a spa in [Palm Springs](#)
 - Say hi to Mickey at Disneyland in [Anaheim](#)
 - Watch the Lakers play in [Los Angeles](#)
 - Learn to surf in [San Diego](#)
 - Plus \$2,000 for expenses. All vaccinated Californians 18 and over are automatically entered to win!

Colorado

- The [Colorado Department of Corrections](#) has announced it will provide \$500 any of its more than 6,000 staff members who gets fully vaccinated against the coronavirus.
- [Colorado Comeback Cash](#)
The Colorado Lottery will conduct a random weekly drawing on behalf of the Colorado Department of Health & Environment to identify one vaccinated Colorado resident each week to win a million-dollar cash prize. All Colorado residents age 18 and older who have received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine, as determined by eligibility rules, are automatically entered into the drawing.
 - Coloradans age 12 to 17 can now win \$50,000 toward college tuition or other postsecondary education. Each week for five weeks, five eligible Coloradans will each be selected to win a \$50,000 scholarship. Teens who have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine may be eligible for the scholarship drawing.

Connecticut

- The [Connecticut Restaurant Association](#) is partnering with Governor Ned Lamont and the State of Connecticut to launch the #CTDrinksOnUs campaign, where participating Connecticut restaurants will offer complimentary drinks to vaccinated patrons beginning May 19.
- [#CTSummerOnUs](#): Residents can enjoy events held across the state and possibly free food in certain restaurants and venues. #CTSummerOnUs includes the following initiatives:

- Make A Splash, Get Vaxxed: Get your first dose at a DPH Van clinic and receive a ticket for free admission to Quassy Amusement Park.
- CT Food On Us: Enjoy free food when you get vaccinated at select special events, including:
 - Food trucks at the Long Wharf Pier in New Haven
 - More options coming soon!
- CT Fun On Us: Receive free admission and perks when you get vaccinated at special events across CT, including:
 - Hartford Yard Goats
 - Beardsley Zoo
 - Mystic Aquarium
 - CT Science Center
 - Mystic Seaport
 - Maritime Aquarium
- Rock the Shot: Residents 18+ who have gotten at least one dose of a COVID vaccine are eligible to enter a drawing to win concert tickets

Delaware

- [Delaware](#) officials are offering to inmates five days of good time credits, a free video visit, snack bag or a special meal, and an opportunity to be scheduled first for in-person visitations when they resume.
- [DE Wins](#)
 - Delawareans 12 to 17 who receive a vaccine in Delaware will be entered into a raffle for a full scholarship to a Delaware university.
 - Delawareans 18 and older vaccinated in Delaware between May 25 and June 29 will have the opportunity to win cash prizes.
 - Other prizes include tickets to Firefly, four-day vacations at destinations in Delaware, a dart pass for a year, and free tolls within the state of Delaware.
 - All Delawareans who have been vaccinated in Delaware are eligible to win \$302, 000 and two low-number license plates.
 - Delaware officials are offering to reimburse bars, restaurants, and shops that offer discounts, freebies or other incentives to customers who get vaccinated.

[Guam](#)

If you are fully vaccinated on Guam and live there, you can enter for a chance to win one of six cars, \$10,000 cash, or other great prizes weekly starting on June 16 until Liberation Day (July 21).

Hawaii

- At a [70% vaccination rate](#), all restrictions will be terminated, including social gatherings, travel restrictions, and restaurant capacity limits.
- [#HiGotVaccinated](#): Residents who receive at least one COVID-19 vaccination shot of Moderna or Pfizer or Johnson & Johnson, are eligible to enter from any island/county in Hawaii. Prizes include:
 - 100,000 HawaiianMiles courtesy of Hawaiian Airlines (10 prizes will be awarded)
 - 50 roundtrip tickets courtesy of Southwest
 - 1 million Marriot Bonvoy points courtesy of Marriot Bonvoy (10 prizes will be awarded)
 - Two roundtrip tickets courtesy of American Airlines (4 prizes will be awarded)
 - One-year auto lease on a quality SUV or Sedan courtesy of AutoSource Hawaii
 - \$6,000 gift card to Zippy's courtesy of Zippy's (1 prize will be awarded)
 - Kahala Hotel & Resort Staycation Package courtesy of The Kahala Hotel & Resort
 - Vacations Hawaii Vegas Package for Two courtesy of Vacations Hawaii
 - Kailua Town Adventure Package courtesy of Alexander & Baldwin
 - A pair of roundtrip tickets courtesy of Alaska Airlines (4 prizes will be awarded)
 - Snacks for a Year courtesy of Enjoy Snacks/KTM
 - Pizza for a Year courtesy of Papa John's (3 prizes will be awarded)
 - One-day ticket and reserved area courtesy of Wet n' Wild Hawaii (20 tickets awarded)
 - Hand painted giclee print, "Hanauma Bay", valued at \$1152 courtesy of artist Thomas Deir
 - \$1,000 worth of ChefZone gift certificates courtesy of ChefZone
 - \$1,000 in catering from L&L Hawaiian Barbecue courtesy of L&L Hawai'i
 - \$1,000 gift certificate courtesy of the Pearl City Shopping Center
 - Dinner for 6 courtesy of Merriman's
 - Two \$500 gift cards courtesy of Elite Discount Furniture
 - \$1,000 gift card courtesy of NAPA Auto Parts
 - \$1,000 in gift cards courtesy of Maui Keto Treats (10 prizes will be awarded)

Idaho

State employees receive 4 hours of paid leave if they have received or choose to receive the vaccine.

Illinois

- Illinois will give out 50,000 free [Six Flags tickets](#) to anyone who has been vaccinated through a partnership with Six Flags Great America payment.
- [All In Illinois](#): Illinois resident, that have been vaccinated or are about to get vaccinated, are automatically entered in for a chance at part of our \$10 million vaccine sweepstakes.
 - All eligible Illinois residents will be automatically entered into two programs:
 - Vaccinated adults are entered into a \$7 million cash prize pool. Three \$1 million jackpots and 40 \$100k cash prizes.
 - Vaccinated youth are entered into a \$3 million scholarship pool. Twenty \$150k scholarship awards are being offered.
 - Getting vaccinated before July 1st gets you entry into every draw and the most chances to win a prize, including the first million-dollar top prize on July 8th.
 - The first drawing takes place on Thursday, July 8th and will continue through the end of August.

Indiana

State health officials announced that anyone who gets vaccinated at specially designated sites will receive a box of Girl Scout cookies along with the shot.

Kentucky

- The Kentucky Lottery announced May 10 that, starting immediately, people 18 or older who get a first or second dose of the vaccine at a Kroger or Walmart location will receive a coupon for a free Cash Ball 225 ticket.
- [Shot At A Million](#): Kentuckians 18 years old and older who have received at least their first dose of a Moderna or Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine, or the one-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine, may enter to win one of three \$1 million drawings. Kentuckians 12 to 17 years old who have received at least their first dose of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine may enter to win one of 15 full scholarships to a Kentucky public college, university, technical or trade school, which includes tuition, room-and-board and books.

Louisiana

- [Shot for a Shot](#): Participating businesses will provide a free alcoholic or non-alcoholic drink to people who can prove they have been fully vaccinated within the previous seven days.
- Vaccinated individuals can gain free entry into all of [Louisiana's 21 State Parks](#) through July 31. This offer is available to all visitors from Louisiana and elsewhere who have been vaccinated, no matter when they got their shot. This offer does not extend to tour groups.
- [ShotAMillion](#): The Louisiana Department of Health is offering the chance to win \$100,000 every week starting July 9th and a grand prize of \$1,000,000 at the end of the month to all Louisiana residents ages 18+ who have chosen to receive at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. Louisiana residents ages 12-17 who have gotten at least one dose of the vaccine are eligible to win one of nine \$100,000 scholarships.

Maine

- [Your Shot to Get Outdoors](#): Any Maine resident age 18 and older who gets their first shot of a Pfizer or Moderna vaccine, or the single-shot Johnson & Johnson vaccine in Maine will qualify to receive one of the rewards below:
 - Fishing license: The Maine Department of Health and Human Services will purchase up to 5,000-year 2021 fishing licenses for Maine residents from the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.
 - Hunting license: The Maine Department of Health and Human Services will purchase up to 5,000-year 2021 hunting season licenses for eligible Maine residents from the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. Eligible Maine residents include those who have completed a hunter safety course, have previously held a license, and are not felons.
 - Maine Wildlife Park pass: The Maine Department of Health and Human Services will purchase up to 5,000 passes to the Maine Wildlife Park in Gray, which are good for admission through the 2021 season, from the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. One pass allows admission for up to two people.
 - Maine State Park Day pass: The Maine Department of Health and Human Services will purchase up to 5,000 day passes for Maine residents to Maine State Parks through the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. The passes can be used through June 15, 2021. One pass allows admission for one vehicle.
 - L.L. Bean gift card: The Maine Department of Health and Human Services will purchase up to 10,000 \$20 gift cards from L.L.Bean for use at their stores.
 - Sea Dogs admission ticket: The Maine Department of Health and Human Services will purchase up to 5,000 tickets from the Portland Sea Dogs, the Double-A affiliate of the Boston Red Sox, for baseball games at Hadlock Field in Portland for 2021 regular season.

- Oxford Plains Speedway pass: The Maine Department of Health and Human Services will purchase from Oxford Plains Speedway up to 5,000 tickets for weekly events in the 2021 racing season.
- [Don't Miss Your Shot](#): Vaccinationland Sweepstakes, a statewide COVID-19 vaccination incentive program that will reward one vaccinated winner with \$1 for every person vaccinated in Maine by July 4. Available for those 12 and older. Registration required. The prize is now \$893,723 as of July 1.

Maryland

- The state will offer a [\\$100 financial incentive](#) to state employees who elect to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. To receive the incentive, employees must provide their HR office with proof of vaccination, and agree to receive all subsequent CDC-recommended booster vaccinations within 18 months of being fully vaccinated. The incentive is retroactive, so that all state employees who have already been fully vaccinated also will receive the \$100 incentive payment.
- [VaxToWin](#): A partnership between the Maryland Lottery and the Maryland Health Department to provide \$2 million in prize money for Marylanders who get vaccinated.
- [VaxU](#): In partnership with the Maryland Dept. of Health and the Higher Education Commission created a new initiative to get more youth vaccinated against COVID-19. Any vaccinated Marylander between the ages of 12 and 17 to be eligible for a \$50,000 college scholarship.

[Massachusetts](#) “Mass VaxMillions”

Fully vaccinated residents who are 18 or older will have a chance to win one of the five \$1 million prizes, while those between the ages of 12 and 17 will be eligible to win one of five \$300,000 scholarship grants.

Michigan

- [Mi Vacc to Normal](#): Once the state documents that 70 percent of the eligible population received at least one dose, its orders on masks and limitations for public and private gatherings would be dropped.
- [MI Shot to Win](#): Residents age 18 and older who have received one dose of vaccine are eligible to register for a combined total of \$5 million in cash giveaways:
 - \$1 million drawing, open to all eligible persons who have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccination between December 1, 2020, and July 10, 2021
 - \$2 million drawing, open to all eligible persons who have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccination between December 1, 2020 and July 30, 2021
 - \$50 thousand daily drawing, open to all eligible persons who have received the first dose of the COVID-19 vaccination on the date corresponding to the \$50k

daily drawing. The deadline to enter the daily drawing is 11:59pm ET the day prior to the drawing

- Scholarship Drawings, open to all eligible persons who have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccination between December 1, 2020, and July 30, 2021.

Minnesota

- [Your Shot to Summer](#): Minnesotans who get vaccinated between Memorial Day weekend through of June 30 will be eligible to choose a reward from nine different options. The incentives are state park passes, fishing licenses, and tickets to fairs and amusement parks. There is also the possibility to receive a \$25 Visa card.
- [Cheers to the Vaccine](#): Minnesotans 21 years of age and older who have received at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose will be eligible for a free or discounted drink at participating establishments starting May 28 through June 30.

Missouri “Mo VIP

Starting in July, the Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services will partner with the Missouri Lottery to draw 180 winners in 5 randomized drawings who will win either \$10,000 cash or \$10,000 towards an education savings account. In total, the state will award 900 individuals throughout the incentive program.

Nevada “Vax Nevada Days

- As part of a public health initiative, the Nevada Office of the Governor and Department of Health and Human Services is partnering with Immunize Nevada and IGT Global Solutions Corporation (IGT) (the “Program”) to launch “Vax Nevada Days” to encourage Nevadans to receive the COVID-19 vaccine (the “Project”).
- Each week of Vax Nevada Days the Project will conduct random drawings to identify vaccinated Nevada residents as winners of cash, post-secondary education saving plans, state parks annual permits or fishing licenses (the “Promotion”). Winners will be announced weekly starting July 8, 2021, with the winner of the GRAND PRIZE OF \$1,000,000 announced August 26, 2021. Vaccinated Nevada residents will have nearly 2,000 opportunities to win.

New Jersey

- [Shot and a Beer](#): In partnership with the Brewer's Guild of New Jersey, the Governor's Office launched the "Shot and a Beer" program to encourage eligible New Jerseyans ages 21 and over to get vaccinated. Any New Jerseyan who got their first vaccine dose in the month of May and took their vaccination card to a participating brewery received a free beer, courtesy of the participating brewery. This program ended May 31.
- [Vax and Visit](#): Beginning May 27 through July 4, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection will offer a State Parks Vax Pass – allowing free access to State parks, including Island Beach State Park – good through Dec. 31, 2021.
- Residents who get vaccinated before the end of May, including anyone who has received their shots in the preceding five-plus months, will also [be eligible to have dinner with Murphy and first lady Tammy Snyder Murphy](#).

New Mexico

- [Vax 2 the Max Sweepstakes](#): Five weekly drawings will award one \$250,000 winner from each of the [state's four public health regions](#), for a total of \$1 million in cash prizes each week. A grand prize of \$5 million will be awarded at the conclusion of the sweepstakes, in early August, to one winner drawn from the statewide pool of vaccinated New Mexicans who have opted into the sweepstakes.
- [The New Mexico Department of Health](#) announced a \$100 incentive for New Mexicans who complete their vaccination series or receive a single-shot Johnson & Johnson vaccination through June 17.
- [Spin the PRIZE Wheel](#): The New Mexico Lottery will bring 10 "prize wheels" to providers who have partnered with the state registration system; these sites will be spread across the state. New Mexicans receiving vaccinations at these sites will be eligible to win assorted prizes, including New Mexico Lottery tickets.

New York

- Governor Andrew Cuomo began a promotion that would provide free tickets to Mets games from May 24 through June 17 and to [Yankee](#) games from May 7 through June 6 for newly vaccinated people, along with another promotion that gave residents [free weekly subway passes](#).
- [Vaccination program](#) that will provide free NYS Lottery scratch-off tickets to individuals 18 and over with a grand prize of \$5 million.
- Every person who receives the COVID-19 vaccine, either a first dose or single dose of Johnson & Johnson, anywhere in New York State this week is eligible to receive a free two-day pass to any [state park](#).
- [The State](#) is partnering with six public transportation providers in Upstate New York to incentivize more New Yorkers to get vaccinated. The six providers cover the Capital, Finger Lakes, Central New York, and Southern Tier regions. Anyone who receives their first dose of Pfizer or Moderna or the single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine at any

provider in New York State between June 15 and July 14 and presents proof of vaccination at a participating transportation redemption center no later than July 14 will receive an unlimited seven-day public transportation pass for a participating provider's transit network.

- [Get a Shot to Make Your Future](#): Parents or legal guardians of any New Yorker, ages 12 to 17, can enter their child who has received at least their first COVID-19 vaccine dose, for a chance to win one of 50, four-year full-ride scholarships (including tuition, fees, room-and-board, and expenses) to any New York State public college or university.

[North Carolina](#) “Your Shot at a Million”

- North Carolinians 18 and over who have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine will be automatically entered into four drawings for a chance to win a \$1 million cash prize. Youth between the ages of 12 and 17 who have received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine will be automatically entered into four drawings to win \$125,000 towards post-secondary education. The \$125,000 can be used at any post-secondary institution.
- From May 26 through June 8, select vaccine sites will offer Summer Cash Cards in Mecklenburg, Guilford, Rowan and Rockingham counties. Anyone 18 and older who gets their first dose of a COVID-19 vaccination — or drives someone to their vaccination — will receive a \$25 cash card after vaccination at a participating location while supplies last. Cards are for the first dose only for both the person being vaccinated and the driver.

[Ohio](#)

- Ohioans aged 18 and older will be entered into “Ohio Vax-a-Million,” a weekly drawing with a prize of up to \$1 million. A total of five weekly drawings for each prize will take place, with the first winners being announced May 26. Winners must have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine by the date of their respective drawing.
- Ohioans 17 and under who are eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccination will be entered into a drawing for a full, four-year scholarship to any of Ohio's state colleges and universities, including full tuition, room and board, and books. A total of five weekly drawings for a full, four-year scholarship will take place, with the first winner being announced May 26.

Oregon

- [Oregonians](#) 18 and older will have the chance to win \$1 million or one of 36 prizes of \$10,000 – with one winner in each county in Oregon. Oregonians age 12 to 17 will have a chance to win one of five \$100,000 Oregon College Savings Plan scholarships. All Oregonians who have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine by the draw date will be entered to win.

- Portland Timbers and Thorns will be giving away an Oregon travel prize at three upcoming home games to encourage Oregonians to get vaccinated. The travel prizes, being offered through [Travel Oregon](#), are valued at up to \$2,000 and include lodging, accommodations, dining, and activities for two at iconic Oregon travel destinations.
 - Example travel prizes include 3-night ski trips to Mt. Hood or Mt. Bachelor, kayaking on the Oregon Coast, a visit to Ashland for the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, and a wine tour of the Willamette Valley. All present will be eligible to win.

USVI

In addition to the general vaccination drawing for \$100,000 for 10 weeks open to all residents, the Government of the Virgin Islands GVI will also sponsor a drawing limited to employees who work in the Territory's Education system and will feature three cash prizes in each district: \$25,000 for 1st place; \$10,000 for 2nd place and \$5,000 for 3rd place.

Washington "Shot of a Lifetime"

The Washington State Lottery will be conducting a giveaway series during the month of June, working with state agencies, technology companies, sports teams and higher education institutions across the state to offer a myriad of different prizes to vaccinated individuals. The incentives include:

- Lottery cash drawings, with prizes totaling \$2 million
- Higher education tuition and expense assistance
- Sports tickets and gear
- Gift cards
- Airline tickets
- Game systems and smart speakers

West Virginia

- West Virginia is offering [\\$100 savings bond or \\$100 gift card](#) to anyone between the ages of 16 to 35 who receives, or has already received, a COVID-19 vaccine. Money for this incentive will come from federal CARES Act funding.
- [Do it for Babydog: Save a Life, Change a life](#): The giveaway will include a \$1.588 million grand prize, a \$588,000 second prize, weekly drawings for \$1 million, full scholarships to any West Virginia state college or university, custom-outfitted trucks, weekend vacations at state parks, lifetime hunting and fishing licenses, custom hunting rifles and custom hunting shotguns.
 - West Virginians 12 to 17 years of age, who have received at least their first dose of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine, may enter for a chance to win one of five, four-year full-ride scholarships, including room-and-board, tuition, and books, to any West Virginia state college or university.

- West Virginians 18 years of age and older, who have received at least their first COVID-19 vaccine if receiving the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines or one dose if receiving the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, have a chance to win one of several large prizes.

**RICHLAND COUNTY
ADMINISTRATION**

2020 Hampton Street, Suite 4069
Columbia, SC 29204
803-576-2050



Agenda Briefing

Prepared by:	Lori Thomas	Title:	Assistant County Administrator	
Department:	Administration	Division:		
Date Prepared:	September 17, 2021	Meeting Date:	September 29, 2021	
Legal Review	Elizabeth McLean via email	Date:	September 21, 2021	
Budget Review	James Hayes via email	Date:	September 17, 2021	
Finance Review	Stacey Hamm via email	Date:	September 17, 2021	
Approved for consideration:	County Administrator	Leonardo Brown, MBA, CPM		
Committee	Coronavirus Ad Hoc			
Subject:	American Rescue Plan – Stipend Recommendations			

STAFF’S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Staff recommends using ARP funding to pay stipends for those employees who worked in-person, on a modified schedule during the pandemic. The recommended amount is \$1,250.00.

Request for Council Reconsideration: Yes

FIDUCIARY:

Are funds allocated in the department’s current fiscal year budget?		Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
If no, is a budget amendment necessary?		Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No

ADDITIONAL FISCAL/BUDGETARY MATTERS TO CONSIDER:

None.

COUNTY ATTORNEY’S OFFICE FEEDBACK/POSSIBLE AREA(S) OF LEGAL EXPOSURE:

None.

REGULATORY COMPLIANCE:

None applicable.

MOTION OF ORIGIN:

There is no associated Council motion of origin.

Council Member	
Meeting	
Date	

STRATEGIC & GENERATIVE DISCUSSION:

On July 20, 2021, Council approved the payment of a premium pay stipend using ARP funding for work done in person by employees during the pandemic. As a result, approximately 1,533 have or will receive stipend payments by October 1, 2021 totaling \$7,140,900.

Staff recognizes that while not working in person full time, those employees that worked a combination schedule of in person and remote were critical to the County's ability to continue to provide critical services to the citizens of Richland County. As such, staff recommends a stipend payment of \$1,250.00 for individuals hired by the County prior to July 1, 2021 for their contribution to the mission of the organization in a combination of remote and in person work. The reduced benefit recognizes the US Treasury requirement that remote work not be considered essential.

This stipend would be issued to approximately 490 employees and require approximately \$660,000 in ARP funding.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FOR CONSIDERATION:

None.

ATTACHMENTS:

**RICHLAND COUNTY
ADMINISTRATION**

2020 Hampton Street, Suite 4069
Columbia, SC 29204
803-576-2050



Agenda Briefing

Prepared by:	Lori J. Thomas, MBA, CGFO	Title:	Assistant County Administrator
Department:	Administration	Division:	
Date Prepared:	September 13, 2021	Meeting Date:	September 29, 2021
Legal Review	Elizabeth McLean via email	Date:	September 23, 2021
Budget Review	James Hayes via email	Date:	September 14, 2021
Finance Review	Stacey Hamm via email	Date:	September 14, 2021
Approved for consideration:	Assistant County Administrator	Leonardo Brown, MBA, CPM	
Committee	Coronavirus Ad Hoc / Detention Center Ad Hoc		
Subject:	Safety & Security Plan		

STAFF'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Staff recommends Council to use American Rescue Plan funds to purchase equipment for the health and safety of employees and the population of the Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center.

Request for Council Reconsideration: Yes

FIDUCIARY:

Are funds allocated in the department's current fiscal year budget?		Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
If no, is a budget amendment necessary?		Yes		No

ADDITIONAL FISCAL/BUDGETARY MATTERS TO CONSIDER:

The total of the equipment request is approximately \$3,338,000 that would be allocated from the American Rescue Plan funding received by Richland County.

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE FEEDBACK/POSSIBLE AREA(S) OF LEGAL EXPOSURE:

None.

REGULATORY COMPLIANCE:

None applicable.

MOTION OF ORIGIN:

There is no associated Council motion of origin.

Council Member	
Meeting	
Date	

STRATEGIC & GENERATIVE DISCUSSION:

The critical purpose of the American Rescue Fund resources is the prevention and mitigation of the spread of COVID-19. Staff believes it is especially critical for us to implement measures to be as effective as possible in areas of congregate sheltering such as the Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center to benefit both those held at the detention center and the employees who are critical to operate the facility. As such, we have evaluated our processes at the center and recommend the following enhancements in equipment:

Recommendation	ARP Funding	Recurring Cost	Goal
Full Body Scanners (2)	\$300,000 purchase \$120,000 maintenance (6 years)	\$10,000 - \$20,000 /year (added to budget in FY 2028)	By implementing full body scanners in the facility, physical contact for pat downs will be eliminated.
Secured Employee Parking	\$100,000	N/A	Minimize public contact with employees entering facility to ensure staff availability.
Body Cameras/Tasers	\$2.2 Million over a 7 year contract	\$315,000/year (added to budget in FY 2028)	Body cameras will provide data on employee interactions for contact tracing. Tasers will minimize employee contact with center population in the event of the need to bring a volatile situation under control with no violence.
Facility-wide Security Cameras (Interior and Exterior)	\$288,000 purchase \$330,000 monthly fee until Dec. 31, 2026	\$5,250 per month to be budgeted beginning FY 2027 (six months); thereafter budget 12 months \$63,000 annually	Provides facility wide security cameras for contact tracing and population monitoring for health, well-being, and control. This will allow officers to more quickly respond to these instances in the facility.

The total of this equipment request is approximately \$3,338,000 that would be allocated from the American Rescue Plan funding received by Richland County.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FOR CONSIDERATION:

None.

**RICHLAND COUNTY
ADMINISTRATION**

2020 Hampton Street, Suite 4069
Columbia, SC 29204
803-576-2050



Agenda Briefing

Prepared by:	Lori Thomas	Title:	Assistant County Administrator	
Department:	Administration	Division:		
Date Prepared:	September 14, 2021	Meeting Date:	September 29, 2021	
Legal Review	Elizabeth McLean via email	Date:	September 21, 2021	
Budget Review	James Hayes via email	Date:	September 23, 2021	
Finance Review	Stacey Hamm via email	Date:	September 17, 2021	
Approved for consideration:	County Administrator	Leonardo Brown, MBA, CPM		
Committee	Coronavirus Ad Hoc			
Subject:	Air quality improvements at 2020 and 2000 Hampton Street			

STAFF'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Staff recommends approval to allocate \$5,205,000 in American Rescue Plan funding to replace the HVAC and Ventilation System as well as roofing at the Richland County Administration building and the SC Department of Health Building.

Request for Council Reconsideration: Yes

FIDUCIARY:

Are funds allocated in the department's current fiscal year budget?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
If no, is a budget amendment necessary?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No

ADDITIONAL FISCAL/BUDGETARY MATTERS TO CONSIDER:

Funds originally considered for future use for this capital improvement could be reprogrammed to other necessary County capital projects.

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE FEEDBACK/POSSIBLE AREA(S) OF LEGAL EXPOSURE:

None.

REGULATORY COMPLIANCE:

None applicable.

MOTION OF ORIGIN:

There is no associated Council of origin.

Council Member	
Meeting	
Date	

STRATEGIC & GENERATIVE DISCUSSION:

The critical purpose of the American Rescue Fund resources is the prevention and mitigation of the spread of COVID-19. Staff believes given the age of the current HVAC and Ventilation system as well as the roof of the buildings replacement would improve the filtering of the air and air quality in the building as well as improve the health and wellbeing of employees working in these facilities and the general public by providing good air quality and consistent climate.

Staff recommends using Johnson Controls through Sourcewell- a cooperative purchasing agreement- for the most effective product at the best price (document attached) for the HVAC and ventilation system. Roofing would be contracted following the installation of the HVAC equipment.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FOR CONSIDERATION:

None.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Sole Source Procurement Document
2. Sourcewell Cooperative Information



SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT

Definitions utilized in determining a True Sole Source Purchases

Sole Source is when only *one Vendor/Contractor* possesses unique and singularly available capacity to meet the requirements such as technical specifications and qualifications, ability to deliver at and in a particular and desired time. When the required equipment, supplies, construction, goods or services are available from only one source and no other type will satisfy the need.

Sole Source must be justified with information of efforts undertaken to locate possible alternative supplier. Whenever using Sole Source rather than full and open competition, provide an explanation of the reason *why* specifications suitable for full and open competition could not be developed or meet your needs; *why* it is necessary; *how* is it in the county's best interest.

A "True Sole Source" is when a product is available from only one source, often determined by patent or copyright protection, proprietary rights and capacity of one supplier to provide superior capabilities unobtainable from any other supplier for similar products.

The following are examples describing circumstances which could necessitate a "Sole Source":

- (a) Where the compatibility of equipment, accessories, or replacement parts is the paramount consideration;
- (b) Where a sole supplier's item is needed for trial use or testing;
- (c) Where a sole source supplier's item is to be procured for resale;
- (d) Where public utility services are to be procured;
- (e) Where the item is one of a kind; and
- (f) Printed forms, pamphlets, brochures, exclusive of printing equipment.

1. REQUIRING DEPARTMENT:

NAME OF REQUESTOR:

Operational Services	Randy Pruitt
----------------------	--------------

2. DESCRIPTION OF ACTION.

a. State if procurement is: Non-Urgent Sole Source Urgent Sole Source

b. For the Sole Source provide the following:

Company:

Johnson Controls, Incorporated (JCI)

Point of Contact:

Email:

David Altman	david.altman@jci.com
--------------	----------------------

Telephone #:

Fax #:

wk. 866-668-0941 / mobile: 843-458-2194	
-----------------------------------------	--

3. DESCRIPTION OF SUPPLIES/SERVICES, ESTIMATED DOLLAR VALUE AND DELIVERY REQUIREMENTS. Give a short description of the item or service required, the estimated cost, and required delivery date.

Description: remove and replace the three HVAC chillers and their associated pumps, three cooling towers and their associated pumps and equipment, and two ERU (energy recovery units) located throughout both 2000 and 2020 Hampton St.

Estimated \$ Value: \$2.950 million

Delivery Requirements: The installation will be coordinated with Operational Services to minimize impact on the facility. The date of installation is to be determined, based on manufacturing schedule.

4. EXPLANATION OF SOLE SOURCE CIRCUMSTANCES.
For Sole Source Requirements:

(a) Explain why the item (s) is needed and what will happen if it's not received by the Required Delivery Date (RDD). Describe impact on overhaul/availability schedules, impact to support, personnel safety issues, potential environmental damages, etc., and include the dollar value associated with late delivery:

The existing equipment in the facility that is being replaced is Johnson Control equipment. It will be replaced with new Johnson Control Equipment. This is a like-to-like equipment replacement as much as possible. Additionally, JCI has the service and maintenance contracts with this facility allowing for smoother integration into the proprietary METASYS building automation system that is also a JCI product. The current equipment is failing which could lead to the facility being unable to be occupied due to temperature extremes. These items are custom-manufactured for system integration and is expected to take at least six to eight months to manufacture.

Required Delivery Date (RDD):	Cost:
not applicable - as soon as possible	\$2.4 million

(b) Explain the unique features/function of the item and why only one manufacturer can provide it. Discuss why a similar product from another manufacturer will not work:

For HVAC system and operational efficiency, and for accountability, it is critical that the entire HVAC system be one unified system. JCI is already contracted with Richland County for service and maintenance of the HVAC system. These main components have already gone ten years past expected life expectancy and represent the heart of the HVAC system. All subcomponents of the HVAC system need to be consistent. Original equipment is JCI equipment that is being replaced with like (JCI) equipment.

(c) If the item can only be obtained from the OEM (Original Equipment Manufacturer), discuss the proprietary (i.e. owned by the company, not for public release) Design, drawing, specification requirements:

All equipment must fit and operate as originally designed - to allow the facility and system to operate within design parameters. Replacing the existing equipment with like JCI equipment helps ensure the originally intended parameters (from the original mechanical engineer) are maintained, allowing the building's HVAC to function efficiently and as intended.

(d) If there is a higher order requirement mandating a particular manufacturer (Public Safety equipment, goods and services), cite the requirement and who approved or required its usage:

Not applicable (other than the original purchase of JCI HVAC equipment for the facility)

(e) For component repair or replacement parts, explain any compatibility requirements, including a description of the existing equipment and the interface requirements:

The METASYS system (building control management system) proprietary provided by JCI integrates fully and more effectively with JCI HVAC equipment. Any equipment outside of their hierarchy architecture could vastly interrupt and impede reliability, functionality, and efficiency.

5. PROPRIETARY INFORMATION: If sole source is based on proprietary data, a statement to that effect is all that is required in response to this block. The equipment, goods, process and software are proprietary to:

All equipment, goods, process, and software are proprietary to JCI.

CERTIFICATIONS

I CERTIFY THAT THE FACTS AND REPRESENTATIONS UNDER MY COGNIZANCE WHICH ARE INCLUDED IN THIS JUSTIFICATION ARE COMPLETE AND ACCURATE AND IS BEING PROCURED PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF RICHLAND COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES.

REQUESTOR

Name, Title and Signature:

Randy Pruitt, Director, Operational Services

Account Code:

Telephone:

Date:

I CERTIFY THAT THE FACTS AND REPRESENTATIONS UNDER MY COGNIZANCE WHICH ARE INCLUDED IN THIS JUSTIFICATION ARE COMPLETE AND ACCURATE AND IS BEING PROCURED PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF RICHLAND COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES.

DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR

Name, Title and Signature:

Date:

Randy Pruitt, Director, Operational Services

PROCUREMENT DIRECTOR

Name and Signature

Date:

ADMINISTRATOR

Name and Signature

Date:



Together,
we are
Sourcewell

Cooperative purchasing

Cooperative purchasing is procurement conducted by, or on behalf of, one or more government units for use by other government units.



Compliant

- Our process can be trusted to satisfy your bid requirements
- We are a government agency that works like you
- Achievement of Excellence in Procurement recipient



Competitive

- Buying power of 50,000 participating agencies
- Contracts offer ceiling-based (not-to-exceed) pricing and volume discounts



Convenient

- More than 400 quality suppliers holding competitively awarded contracts
- Full suite of options for a complete solution
- Easy, no-cost participation for public agencies

Our process

Cooperative purchasing connects buyers and sellers for efficiency and savings.

Our user-friendly process—the consistency of our documents, forms, and evaluation criteria—is among our greatest assets.

We continuously refine our efforts to meet the changing needs of our participating agencies. They value our North American competitive procurement process, which satisfies local procurement requirements.

Our clients add value to these steps by understanding their local procurement requirements and assessing their ability to legally access and utilize Sourcewell contracts.

Competitive procurement process

1. Scope of solicitation

We determine the scope of each competitive solicitation by identifying the needs of our public agency clients. This is accomplished through daily interactions and guidance from our clients.

2. Authorization from Sourcewell Board of Directors

Before initiating a solicitation, we seek permission from the publicly elected Sourcewell Board of Directors.

3. Public notice and advertising

Upon approval from the board, we issue a public notice and advertisement. Refer to sourcewell-mn.gov/process for specific advertising locations.

4. Proposal receipt and opening

We accept web-based, digital submissions through the Sourcewell Procurement Portal. Responses through the portal are secure and inaccessible until after the published due date and time. We conduct a public-proposal opening time, date, and place as specified in the RFP. Prior to April 1, 2019, physical submissions were accepted with a time and date stamp upon receipt at our office in Staples, Minn.

5. Objective evaluation

At the proposal opening, we evaluate the responsiveness of each proposal received. The evaluation committee then presents its recommendations to the chief procurement officer (CPO) for final review and approval.

6. Official award

Upon approval by the CPO and ratification by the Sourcewell Board of Directors, we award the recommended supplier(s) a four-year contract with the potential for a one-year extension. The Sourcewell Procurement Department sends a Notice of Award or Non-Award to all respondents via email.

7. Posting and review of approved contract documents

Sourcewell maintains a complete procurement file, and contract documentation is posted on our website. We periodically review all awarded contracts for compliance and effectiveness. In addition, Sourcewell may review and approve price and product changes at the supplier's request.



Six-time recipient of the Achievement of Excellence in Procurement award.



Johnson Controls, Inc.

HVAC

#030817-JHN

Maturity Date: 05/08/2022

Contract Documents

HVAC Systems, Installation, and Service with Related Products and Supplies

Contract #030817-JHN

Effective 05/08/2017 - 05/08/2022

Contract Documentation

Request for Proposal (RFP) (490.16 KB)

Contract Acceptance & Award (33.75 KB)

Contract Forms (6.33 MB)

Contract Extension (74.94 KB)

Competitive Solicitation Documentation

Affidavit of Advertisement (2.19 MB)

Proposal Opening Witness Page (408.35 KB)

Proposal Evaluation (387.68 KB)

Proposal Evaluation Evaluation Committee Comment & Review (677.97 KB)

Board Minutes (966.23 KB)

Coronavirus Ad Hoc Committee Minutes

September 13, 2021



Richland County
 Coronavirus Ad Hoc Committee
 September 13, 2021 – 3:00 PM
 Zoom Meeting
 2020 Hampton Street, Columbia, SC 29204

Yvonne McBride District 3	Paul Livingston District 4	Gretchen Barron, Chair District 7	Joe Walker District 6	Chakisse Newton District 10
------------------------------	-------------------------------	--------------------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------------

Committee Members Present: Gretchen Barron, Chair; Yvonne McBride, Paul Livingston, and Chakisse Newton

Others Present: Overture Walker, Michelle Onley, Angela Weathersby, Kyle Holsclaw, Tamar Black, Ashiya Myers, Lori Thomas, Leonardo Brown, Zachary Cavanaugh, Justin Landy, Allison Steele, Dale Welch, Beverly Harris, Kela Thomas, Lori Elrod, Matt Drawdy, Michael Byrd, Judy Carter, Paul Brawley, Michael Maloney, Randy Pruitt, Ronaldo Myers, Sandra Haynes, Stacey Hamm, Syndi Castelluccio, Jeannette McBride, John Thompson, Lori Thomas, James Hayes, Nadia Rutherford, Byron Gipson, Christa Sheehan, Aric Jensen, Geo Price, Dante Roberts and Jeff Ruble.

1. **Call to Order** – Ms. Barron called the meeting to order at approximately 3:00 PM.
2. **Approval of Minutes: July 12, 2021** – Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Ms. Newton, to approve the minutes as distributed.

In Favor: McBride, Livingston, Barron, and Newton

Not Present: J. Walker

The vote in favor was unanimous.

3. **Adoption of Agenda** – Ms. McBride moved, seconded by Mr. Livingston, to approve the agenda as published.

In Favor: McBride, Livingston, Barron, and Newton

Not Present: J. Walker

The vote in favor was unanimous.

4. **Emergency Rental Assistance Program (2) Update** – Ms. Barron thanked Mr. Brown and his staff for their efforts and noted they have gained national recognition. She noted some of the staff members are going to be a part of a presentation with The U.S. Department of Treasury.

Mr. Brown stated for ERAP2 the County has approved over \$2M of the initial amount received. He noted we requested the additional 60% and the U.S. Treasury did approve the County to apply, and we have received the additional funding. He noted Richland County expended the \$12M in ERAP-1 funds, and have been awarded approximately \$9M in ERAP-2 funding. He stated they are still looking for

**Coronavirus Ad Hoc Committee
 September 13, 2021**

different opportunities for community outreach and more engagement from community partners.

Ms. Newton inquired about the total allotment of funds that Richland County has, or will, receive.

Mr. Brown responded \$12.573M for ERAP-1 and \$9.9M for ERAP-2.

Ms. McBride requested a final report to determine where the funds from ERAP-1 went and a demographic breakdown.

Mr. Brown responded he could provide a report, which includes a breakdown by zip code, by race and by ethnicity.

Ms. Newton noted there are some citizens who are computer savvy and have all of their documentation, while there are others, particularly the elderly who are not able to navigate the application process.

Ms. Barron noted, when citizens have challenges with computers, there are places they can go. For example, the library, to get assistance with the process. She stated they needed to explain better what to bring to an appointment, when applying for the funds, and where they can go to get help. She suggested doing a brief video because people are more drawn to pictures and videos.

Ms. Newton noted, in some cases, the applicants themselves had to create the documentation to prove they had been negatively impacted by COVID. There needed to be education to explain what kinds of documents are applicable and how to get or create those documents.

Ms. McBride inquired if we learned anything from ERAP-1 to make ERAP-2's distribution faster.

Mr. Brown replied in the affirmative. He noted, internally, they changed some of the processes, specifically dealing with information flow from departments from approval to payment.

Ms. Barron inquired about the average turnaround time for an applicant applying with the necessary documentation and having a check cut.

Mr. Brown responded, after all the proper documentation is submitted, it takes approximately 5-7 days to vet and approve the application for payment. The check then goes out in the mail. There have been some issues with the US Postal Service, and it is something the County is working on.

5. **Mask Ordinance** – Mr. Brown noted he previously reported on the metrics to highlight the spread of COVID in the community. When the numbers were below 5%, it indicated a slowing of the spread. Richland County has been above 5% for a while. He noted, when the County previously put the mask ordinance in place, the percent positive, and the number of confirmed cases per 100,000 were substantially lower than they are currently.

Ms. Newton suggested having a conversation with someone like Dr. Linda Bell, or someone from PRISMA Health, to give a regular update and allow for questions and discussion.

Ms. Barron noted they are getting email updates from PRISMA, but it would be great to have someone that could answer medical questions.

Mr. Livingston noted, in the Council meeting agenda packet, there was a draft of the mask ordinance for review.

Ms. Barron noted we previously put a mask ordinance in place when the numbers were much lower.

Ms. Rutherford stated she reached out to the Public Information Office about doing a PSA to show how many cases and deaths they are seeing. She noted people have relaxed in wearing their masks, washing their hands and social distancing. She noted the Coroner's Office does not receive every COVID case. She is requesting to be notified of all COVID cases, in order to protect the staff.

6. **COVID-19 Vaccine Mandate for County Staff** – Mr. Brown noted other cities and counties have taken this step. He has talked about this item during his weekly department meetings and had them start to consider the potential reality if COVID continues to be so prevalent in the communities. He noted the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission discussed the employers having the ability to implement this action. OSHA added vaccine to their suggested guidance to fight COVID. There was a lot of information from healthcare providers and experts about the effectiveness of vaccines. He noted the private sector, and now the public sector, are requiring vaccines. He would like to hear from Council on what they want the experience of “the customers”, as it relates to people who serve the citizens of Richland County, as well as, the citizens of Richland County, who you have charge over.

Ms. Barron inquired about the impact of the President's vaccine mandates on County government.

Mr. Brown responded he was not sure how it would affect County Government yet, or if it would affect Federal funding, such as the ERAP funds, which come from the Federal Government.

Ms. Barron stated, before Council could give any guidance, they need to know how the President's mandate would affect us.

Mr. Livingston stated they should look at a process similar to what USC has with a vaccine mandate, or required two-week testing. He inquired about the implications, legality and enforcement, if the County did something similar.

Ms. Newton inquired about protected health information, and how it would be stored and treated.

Ms. McBride noted she liked the idea of the vaccine mandate. Those that did not want to take it would have the option of being tested. She inquired if other counties have implemented the vaccine mandate, and if there is any feedback.

Mr. Brown stated, as we look at it, and consider it, one of the things we will talk about is some sort of metric, like we did with the percent positive numbers that speak to some level of effectiveness.

Ms. Barron stated, with both the mask mandate and the vaccine mandate, this is an emergency health crisis. She stated she would like them to move quickly with the research to see how Richland County could do its part to slow the spread of COVID.

Ms. Newton stated, for clarification, we are considering a vaccine mandate for County employees only.

7. **Community Outreach and Awareness Efforts**

- a. **Incentive Program** – Mr. Brown stated we would potentially be using American Rescue Plan funds. He noted an incentive program would come from an approval of Council. It would require feedback from Council on acceptable practices. The County could potentially incentivize employees to get the vaccine, give employees paid level if they contract COVID, they need time to recover from the vaccine, or have been exposed to the virus. He noted the City of Columbia recently incentivized their employees to get vaccinated.

Ms. McBride stated her concern is within the communities with the escalating number of COVID cases. She suggested incentivizing the vulnerable communities to get vaccinated. She noted other places have used monetary incentives. She would like to explore holding vaccination events in hard to reach communities to give them an extra push to get the vaccine. She noted it was not a reward to get vaccinated, but for the safety of everyone.

Ms. Barron inquired how the incentive would be given. Would it be on an individual basis or would there be a drawing from a pool of names to receive a reward.

Ms. McBride responded each individual would receive an incentive at the time of their vaccination. She noted some places gave away debit cards.

Ms. Barron inquired if the incentive would be held for the second shot.

Ms. McBride responded they would get it during their first shot.

Ms. Barron inquired if a gift card is an allowable expenditure of the ERAP funds.

Mr. Brown responded in the affirmative. He noted individuals have inquired about an incentive program, if they have already been vaccinated. He inquired if it would be retroactive or only going forward.

Ms. McBride responded it is not retroactive, but moving forward.

Ms. Newton inquired about having additional COVID testing sites and vaccination clinics to provide more access.

Mr. Livingston inquired if there were any attempts to engage trusted community leaders like the County's Neighborhood Council and community leaders in an attempt to provide information.

Ms. Newton inquired if we could partner with the local association of medical professionals, and have them present at some of the vaccination sites.

Ms. Barron noted we should find the zip codes in the County that are the hardest hit, and find trusted community leaders to host several events through those communities with an incentive to be vaccinated or tested. She noted, with the vaccination, people still need to be tested regularly.

Ms. Rutherford stated she would be meeting with a company that is looking to bring mobile vaccination trucks to the areas the Coroner's Office has deemed underserved or are hotspots. She noted this would not be a drain on County resources.

- b. **Infomercial** – Mr. Brown suggested partnering County Council partnering with City and State representative to produce infomercials to discuss the vaccination for their specific areas. He and the other city managers could also come together and do the same thing. The idea is for the Richland County community to come together to support steps to improve health and the quality of life versus Richland County government.

Ms. McBride stated she liked the idea of partnering with other elected officials.

Ms. Newton stated she was in favor of the infomercial, but she was concerned about the distribution plan and making sure it would reach people.

Ms. McBride stated she heard that having celebrity spokespersons was not as effective as having local laypersons that citizens trust, not just elected officials.

Ms. Barron stated, if funding would allow, we could have an outside team help produce and distribute the infomercial. She suggested all Councilmembers aware of community leaders should provide recommendations to Mr. Brown.

Mr. Brawley stated the Auditor's Office sends out 25,000 – 30,000 automobile tax notices each month, and it would be an excellent opportunity for the County to insert information, as it relates to the vaccination.

8. **American Rescue Plan Funding**

- b. **Safety and Security Equipment** – Mr. Brown noted this item is specifically about the Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center and the American Rescue Plan being the funding mechanism. He wanted to address this with the Coronavirus Ad Committee before it is discussed at the Detention Center Ad Hoc Committee. He noted we are looking at purchasing body scanners to reduce physical contact and reduce transmissibility. In addition, we are considering a separate entrance for employees, secure parking, body cameras, and interior and exterior cameras.

Ms. Barron inquired if the committee needs to take any action at this time.

Mr. Brown responded the Detention Center Ad Hoc Committee will need to approve the equipment. He will provide documentation, at a later time, and request the Coronavirus Ad Hoc Committee to approve the funding.

- a. **Premium Pay** – Mr. Brown noted he has received feedback from elected officials and departments since the initial premium payout. Some individuals feel there were options Council did not consider because they were not put them before them. When the premium pay was initially presented, it was noted there was a cap of 150% of the average median income, which equated to \$82,150. Most department heads were at the cap. He inquired if department heads and elected officials should be included in the premium pay stipend since many of them worked in-person.

Ms. Newton inquired about the \$82,150 cap, and the rules from Treasury.

Mr. Brown responded the cap plays in the utilization of the funds. There were two (2) pots of money. There is the straight money, which the premium pay came from. Then there is the other pot for lost revenues.

Ms. Newton inquired if the \$40M already received the “straight funding” being referenced.

Mr. Brown responded in the affirmative.

Ms. Newton inquired if the lost revenue could be used over the \$82,150 cap.

Mr. Brown responded in the affirmative.

Ms. McBride stated she did not have enough time to process the information about giving funds to elected officials and departments. She did not have any numbers before her to process. She noted she supported a flat amount versus a percentage pay.

Ms. Newton inquired if the County previously approved a flat amount.

Mr. Brown responded in the affirmative.

Ms. Newton stated she welcomed this conversation being brought back because there were people working in the County building across the entire wage scale, and she would like to recognize them.

Ms. Barron stated she agreed with Ms. Newton about the conversation being brought back to the committee, so they can make an informed decision. She noted they had a plan they voted on. They are open to exploring another plan, but they need additional details.

Mr. Brawly stated about half of his staff telecommuted and came into the office depending on the time of the month and the tax bills. Based on the initial information for premium pay, it left out a lot his employees. He noted he would like Council to consider another premium pay option for those employees.

Mr. Gipson noted he is advocating for his employees. He noted, based on the number of employees, they came in at different times of the week. It would have been irresponsible to bring the whole staff in at the same time. He noted anytime any amount of money is offered there is an unrest created because it looks like there is a delineation. Many of the staff came back upset because they thought they personally made decisions to prevent them from qualifying. If there was another way to distribute funds, he would love to see it. He inquired about the loss revenue aspect, and if it was being looked at under the premium pay, or an additional pot of money where we may be able to petition for additional funds because they were not able to collect revenues (i.e. court fees and fines).

Ms. Barron responded the lost revenue fund pertains to the overall County, not a specific department.

Mr. Brown noted a lot of people work some remote schedule, with an in-person setting and out of office setting. The stipend that was paid was for those who worked in-person, just like before the pandemic. He inquired if the body would like to provide a level of compensation, in the form of a stipend, for individuals that worked in-person some days and remotely others. In the future, he would recommend a stipend for \$1,250. There will be two (2) separate items: whether to include department heads/elected officials and whether to do another level of stipend for in-person/remote employees.

9. **Adjournment** – The meeting adjourned at approximately 4:35PM.

Coronavirus Ad Hoc Committee
September 29, 2021

Utilities Delinquent Receivables
Briefing Document

**RICHLAND COUNTY
ADMINISTRATION**

2020 Hampton Street, Suite 4069
Columbia, SC 29204
803-576-2050



Agenda Briefing

Prepared by:	Lori Thomas	Title:	Assistant County Administrator	
Department:	Administration	Division:		
Date Prepared:	September 22, 2021	Meeting Date:	September 29, 2021	
Legal Review	Elizabeth McLean via email	Date:	September 23, 2021	
Budget Review	James Hayes via email	Date:	September 23, 2021	
Finance Review	Stacey Hamm via email	Date:	September 23, 2021	
Approved for consideration:	County Administrator	Leonardo Brown, MBA, CPM		
Committee	Coronavirus Ad Hoc			
Subject:	Utilities Delinquent Receivables			

STAFF’S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Staff recommends the reservation of up to \$1,000,000 in American Rescue Plan lost revenue funds to recover utility bad debt brought on by the pandemic.

Request for Council Reconsideration: Yes

FIDUCIARY:

Are funds allocated in the department’s current fiscal year budget?		Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
If no, is a budget amendment necessary?		Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No

ADDITIONAL FISCAL/BUDGETARY MATTERS TO CONSIDER:

None.

COUNTY ATTORNEY’S OFFICE FEEDBACK/POSSIBLE AREA(S) OF LEGAL EXPOSURE:

None.

REGULATORY COMPLIANCE:

None applicable.

MOTION OF ORIGIN:

There is no associated Council motion of origin.

Council Member	
Meeting	
Date	

STRATEGIC & GENERATIVE DISCUSSION:

As of August 31, 2021, Richland County Utilities had accounts receivable of \$1,033,034 of which \$962,265 is delinquent. Of the delinquent amount, \$913,018.42 is over 90 days past due because of the suspension of disconnections for non-payment. Given the size of this debt, it is unlikely that it would all be collected by reinstating disconnections. To prohibit long-term fiscal impacts to the system, staff recommends reserving up to \$1,000,000 in American Rescue Plan lost revenue funds to recover debts that would go unpaid within the current fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.

Additionally, given that the original Council action only suspended disconnections for 60 days, staff would suggest that to give time for notification, disconnections for non-payment resume on October 20, 2021 as well as the application of late fees and reconnection fees for disconnected service. Staff will communicate the plan to resume disconnections using PIO efforts and a printed message on the October utility bill.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FOR CONSIDERATION:

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1.