

3 **RESOLUTION: Authorize the Creation of a Winnebago County ARPA Strategy and**  
4 **Outcomes Commission**

6 **TO THE WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

7 **WHEREAS**, on March 11, 2021, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA),  
8 which provided money to respond to the COVID-19 global pandemic; and

9 **WHEREAS**, at the August 2021 county board meeting, the board passed Resolution 196-082021 to officially  
10 accept \$16,695,459 in ARPA funds with ARPA funds being invested pending board action on appropriations; and

11 **WHEREAS**, in the spring of 2022, Winnebago County expects to receive the second tranche of ARPA  
12 proceeds in the amount of \$16,695,459 for a total of \$33,390,918; and

13 **WHEREAS**, in January of 2022, the US Department of Treasury released a final rule, which will take effect  
14 on April 1, 2022, to guide the county on allowable uses for the local allocation; and

15 **WHEREAS**, it is necessary for Winnebago County to take a strategic approach to ensure that the eventual  
16 disposition of all the ARPA proceeds fully reflects the County's highest priorities and meets the County's most  
17 significant needs; and

18 **WHEREAS**, it is also necessary for the County Board of Supervisors, County Executive and members of the  
19 community to work together in a collaborative approach to ensure the best use of ARPA proceeds; and

20 **WHEREAS**, the new Treasury guidance clearly articulates that local governments can use ARPA dollars to  
21 invest in evidence-based strategies and resources to improve community outcomes by stating, "these resources  
22 include but are not limited to data gathering, data cleaning, data analysis, data infrastructure, data management, data  
23 sharing, data transparency, performance management, outcomes-based budgeting, outcomes-based procurement,  
24 and other data needs";

25 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that an ARPA  
26 Strategy and Outcomes Commission is created and to be chosen from the new County Board after the April 2022  
27 election. It is to be co-chaired by the County Board Chairperson and County Executive. All ARPA spending and  
28 appropriation requests are to be submitted to the ARPA Strategy and Outcomes Commission for its recommendation  
29 prior to action by the full County Board.  
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32 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that the ARPA Strategy and  
33 Outcomes Commission will consist of the County Executive, County Board Chairperson or designee, Chair of the  
34 Personnel and Finance Committee, three additional county board supervisors selected by the County Board  
35 Chairperson, Director of Finance, and three members of the public selected by the County Executive, with all  
36 appointments subject to county board confirmation.

38 **Fiscal Note: No fiscal impact.**

40 Respectfully submitted by:

41 **PERSONNEL & FINANCE COMMITTEE**

42 Committee Vote: **5-0**

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Vote Required for Passage: Majority of Those Present

Approved by the Winnebago County Executive this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jonathan D. Doemel  
Winnebago County Executive

# Agenda Item Report



**Winnebago County**  
*The Wave of the Future*

DATE: January 27, 2022  
TO: Members of the Personnel and Finance Committee  
FROM: Human Resources and Interim Finance Director Mike Collard  
RE: Strategic Planning and ARPA Funds

## Background:

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA). The legislation provided money to respond to the COVID-19 global pandemic. Unlike previous relief packages, ARPA provides direct grants to all county governments which will be distributed in two tranches. In May of 2021, Winnebago County received the first half of our over \$33 million. At the August 2021 county board meeting, the board passed Resolution 196-082021 to officially accept \$16,695,459 in ARPA funds. At that time, no appropriations were made. Currently, all ARPA funds have been invested pending board action on appropriations. The US Department of Treasury final rule on how local governments may spend ARPA allocations has been issued and will take effect April 1, 2022.

Under ARPA, Winnebago County has until the end of 2024 to incur and obligate the money, with the work to be completed by 2026. We also need to file quarterly reports regarding how the money has been allocated and spent.

Under ARPA counties may spend resources on planning, consultants, and other expenses to ensure proper allocation of the resources. Treasury has been actively encouraging governments to go through this process to ensure ARPA is spent effectively.

## Policy Discussion:

ARPA funds need to be seen as investment dollars for a better future and not simply money to be spent on projects. We know the pandemic will cause future challenges such as the labor crisis and supply chain disruptions. We must be ready to adjust our spending to adapt to the challenges met by our citizens. ARPA allocation should be a slow and cautious effort to ensure the wellbeing of Winnebago County residents for the long-term effects suffered from this pandemic. We should also be prepared to collaborate with Winnebago County's towns, villages and cities to further compound resources for the highest and best needs across the county.

We are asking this committee to begin the process by asking the Board to create an ARPA Strategy and Outcomes Commission. The commission will discuss and advance ARPA spending ideas so that they may be considered by the County Board in a cohesive fashion.

## Requested Action:

Motion to advance the draft resolution to authorize the creation of a Winnebago County ARPA Strategy and Outcomes Commission.

## Attachments:

Draft Resolution