

Agenda Item Report



Winnebago County
The Wave of the Future

DATE: February 9, 2022
TO: Facilities & Property Management and Personnel & Finance Committees
FROM: Martin Rudd and JoAnn Rife
RE: Transfer of Funds for UWO Fox Cities – Fume Hood Replacement in the Science Wing

Background:

Project Description:

- Replacement of fifteen (15) fume hoods in Science Labs 1026, 1054, 1068, and 1082.

Project Justification and Operating impact:

- Incorrectly sized fume hoods to match ductwork size and HVAC equipment were installed by the contractor in the Science Wing Addition in 1996. Subsequently, the air handling units have operated inefficiently and proper air draw to effectively utilize the hoods has been inadequate. In 2018, August Winter evaluated the original project drawings and concluded that the properly sized hoods were specified, but not installed.
- The fumes hoods are now 25 years old(some older) and are not working properly in addition to the inadequate air circulation.
- The current state of the fume hoods hinders preparation operations, particularly for microbiology labs.
- The current state of the fume hoods hinder the students ability to use the fume hoods, therefore some lab exercises cannot be done.

Student labs would receive Hamilton Laboratory Solutions, Concept Fume Hoods.

Chemistry support lab would receive Hamilton Laboratory Solutions, Pioneer Fume Hoods

Current State

The fume hoods do not currently meet safety standards.

- A study to evaluate the maximum airflow conditions is necessary
- Test all supply, return and exhaust hoods, grilles, fans, and associated airside components and document results.
- Work with an HVAC Engineer to develop a conditions assessment including energy savings opportunities.
- Identify potential issues for an efficient operating system.
- Concern with current hoods passing inspection.

This project was scheduled to take place in 2021, however other factors came into play. With further investigation, a HVAC performance evaluation was recommended after key players came together to provide updated pricing to fund the project. We are looking to transfer the Equipment funds of \$232,400, so we can start this project.

Policy Discussion:

The County Board is the body that approves bonding and capital project funding. These requests go through the committees of jurisdiction, Personnel and Finance Committee and the County Board. Allocating the funds to proceed with the Nature Center project is subject to County Executive, committee of jurisdiction and Personnel and Finance Committee approval. It does not require full County Board approval.

Requested Action:

The requested action is for a motion and vote to approve the transfer of the budgeted funds for the UWO-Fox Cities Fume Hood Replacement project.

Committee Action:

The Facilities Committee passed this with a vote of 5/0. Upon further clarification as to the status and discussion, the funding request was modified to provide funding for only the feasibility study portion of the project. Once the scope of work is fully determined, UWO-FC will return to the committees for funding for the rest of the project. Personnel and Finance Committee passed the reduced funding level with a vote of 3/1.

Attachments:

Budget Transfer Request