



Brian J. Anderson
Goodhue County Auditor/Treasurer
Goodhue County Finance & Taxpayer Services

Brian.anderson@co.goodhue.mn.us
509 W. Fifth St.
Red Wing, MN 55066
Phone (651) 385-3032

TO: County Board of Commissioners
FROM: Brian J. Anderson, Goodhue County Auditor/Treasurer
SUBJECT: Cannon Falls ARPA Broadband Reimbursement Request
DATE: February 7, 2023

Background

The City of Cannon Falls reached out to Goodhue County about a year ago to discuss assisting in the financing of adding a second communications ring around the City's water tower. The first ring is currently filled with communication antennas and the expansion of another ring would allow for more carriers and/or more equipment to be placed on the tower, allowing for better wireless service to surrounding area. County administration and finance tentatively agreed to propose the request before Board for consideration of funding \$50,000 towards the project with ARPA Broadband funds.



Discussion

The City was in the process of painting the water tower which would require the removal of all antennas (picture before removal), including the emergency management antennas that Goodhue County owns and operates but pays no annual fees to use. The project is now complete with the second ring installed and the City of Cannon Falls has submitted a request for the County to contribute \$50,000 towards the expansion of the new communications ring.

Should the Board approve the request, staff would recommend the revenue source come from the County's ARPA Funds, specifically from the Broadband funds as this project does relate to expanding wireless communications to area homes and businesses. The ARPA Broadband fund was initially approved with \$1.6m, has approximately \$900k earmarked for two grants, has actually spend \$19,000 for the project in Welch, and has a remaining balance of **\$681,000**.



Recommendation

Staff recommends that the County Board approve the request by the City of Cannon Falls for the use of \$50,000 to pay towards the second ring on the Cannon Falls water tower with the use of County Broadband ARPA funds.



Goodhue County ARPA Funding Application Form

The ARPA Funding Application Form must be submitted prior to disbursement of the funds.
Submit by email to Brian.anderson@co.goodhue.mn.us.

Name of Organization <i>City of Cannon Falls</i>	Phone Number <i>507-263-9304-Office</i> <i>507-951-4048-Cell</i>
Name and Title of Contact Person <i>Neil Jensen City Administrator</i>	Email Address <i>NJensen@CannonfallsMN.gov</i>

1. Write and attach a 50 to 250 word description of the program in which you are requesting funding.
2. Specifically list eligible COVID-19 expenses and amounts:

a.	<i>NEW Broadband Railing on Water Tower</i>	<i>\$50,000</i>
b.		
c.		
d.		
	Total	<i>\$50,000</i>

By submitting this application, the above-named organization certifies that it will honor all commitments in the Statements below and in the Document overview.

1. The distribution of funds will be used by the organization only to cover those costs that occurred on or after March 3, 2021 or will occur before December 31, 2024. A cost is incurred when the local government has expended funds to cover the cost. The costs must also meet one of the four following requirements:
 - a. Pay for government services; or
 - b. Support the COVID-19 public health and economic response; or
 - c. Provide premium pay for eligible workers performing essential work; or
 - d. Invest in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure
2. The funds distributed pursuant to this certification will not be used by the organization in any manner contrary to federal guidance. This includes, but is not limited to:
 - a. Make a deposit into a pension fund, and
 - b. Make debt service payments, replenish reserves, or satisfy settlements or judgements; and
 - c. Use as non-Federal cost share or match where prohibited by other Federal Programs; and
 - d. Use for a project that conflicts or contravenes the purpose of ARPA, Uniform Guidance conflicts of interest requirements, and other federal, state, and local laws and regulations.
3. The organization is responsible for repayment of any funds used by the organization in any manner contrary to federal guidance.
4. The organization shall maintain complete and accurate records with respect to costs incurred under this application for a period of at least 5 (five) years after all ARPA funds have been expended. The organization shall allow the County, or other persons or agencies authorized by the County, including Legislative or State Auditor, access to the records of the organization at reasonable hours, including all books, records, documents, and accounting procedures and practices of the organization relevant to the application, for purposes of audit.
5. The organization understands that these funds are subject to the requirements under the Single Audit Act (31 U.S.C. 7501-7507) and the related provisions of the Uniform Guidance 2 C.F.R 200.303 regarding internal controls, 200.331 through 200.333 regarding sub-recipient monitoring and management, and subpart F regarding audit requirements.

I certify that I have the authority to complete this application form on behalf of the organization.

Signature of Chief Executive of Organization <i>Neil Jensen</i>	Title <i>City Administrator</i>	Date <i>12-16-22</i>
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2022 Cannon Falls Broadband Antenna Railing Project

The City of Cannon Falls is requesting \$50,000 to install a new larger railing on the Cannon Falls Water Tower. The new railing will provide additional space for new broadband companies to install their antenna's. This will increase internet service outside of the City of Cannon Falls. There are multiple areas in the surrounding townships that are not served or underserved with good reliable internet. This railing will provide the opportunity for service providers to expand service in the township.