

## **Stimulus Task Force Meeting**

4/2/2009

9:30-10:00

**Individuals Present:** Bill Buchanan, Chris Chronis, Jim Weber, Anthony Swartzendruber, Tim Kaufman, Bill Farney, Irene Hart, Charlene Stevens, Marty Hughes, Richard Powell, Bob Lamkey, Kristi Zukovich, Eddie Sheppard, Rich Euson, David Miller

Review of 3/26/2009 Minutes- No Changes

### **Status Updates-**

#### **Dept. Agriculture- Bill Farney**

- WIC Program- ½ Billion Dollars Federal Funding.
- \$100 Million is going toward technology which is already implemented in Kansas, so nothing available.
- \$400 Million to increase the caseloads for WIC compliance. This will offset a previous cut. We have been told not to expect any increased funding.
- Not convinced there will be nothing available but not sure right now.

#### **Community Economic Development Assistance- Irene Hart**

- CDBG- there is nothing new out. They are having a workshop at the end of April and there are no rules and regulation yet.

#### **Telecom and Information Administration- Charlene Stevens**

- It doesn't look like there will be anything for the county.
- Seems to be money allocated to community colleges, this could be used by our partner, WATC. Still cannot find any rules for this.
- Most of the funding appears to be for rural broadband or public libraries.

#### **Justice Department- Richard Powell**

- The Competitive Byrne/Jag Grant crosses many lines including services, staffing, and some equipment purposes. It's very broad. This is different than the 2 million dollar Byrne grant we are competing with the city for right now. We met with the Jag committee, went through the requests, and created a list of about 1.2 million dollars worth of projects. We anticipate receiving about 1.1 million in the split. Again, this is different than the new stimulus Byrne/Jag grant.
- Stop Grant- Stop violence against women- funds are available for law enforcement, detention and possibly program money.
- Legal Assistance for Victim's Grant- More of a social service type of program. Not sure how applicable it will be but have sent it out to the entire list of agencies we thought would be appropriate.
- Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders- Post arrest program- could be funds for detention, prosecution, and law enforcement.

- Sent details on each grant program to- Public Safety, DIO, DA, District Court, Courthouse security, County Coroner, Emergency Management, and 911.

### **Corp. of Engineers- Jim Weber**

- The Corp. is working off their existing backlog. Unless something is in the pipeline there isn't going to be an opportunity with the Corp.

### **Dept of Energy-Irene Hart**

- Caroline Hasford has put together interdepartmental work groups that will meet weekly to monitor opportunities to funding.
- Weatherization funds have been made available through SKED, we are getting out a one page flier to smaller cities. They need a pool of qualified applicants. We are trying to make sure we get as many applicants as possible.
- There are income limits on Weatherization but they have expanded the kinds of things that can be done. It can replace furnaces, air conditioners, and refrigerators. It's broader and there is a little more money available. The money that went directly to the state; it looks like the state is keeping that and will start up there own weatherization program.
- SKED had 6 million but the state took some back so now it appears more like 3 million.
- SKED will be dealing directly with the recipients; they have always run a weatherization program. We are attempting to assist in the outreach program to make people aware the money is available.
- Energy Block Grant- Information is not yet out. We are looking at eligible county facilities for energy retrofitting; also, Kevin Miles is monitoring the alternative fuel opportunities, and Code enforcement is looking into green building and energy efficient codes.

**Charlene Stevens-**The energy block grant applications are due May 26 but the rules aren't out for the grant application yet. Facilities are looking into energy audits on our buildings. Also, we are looking at our construction projects to see if we can move them up or see if we can get money to offset them.

**Irene Hart-**There is a real lack of clarity about if we get money and how much money. A list came out of 10 cities in the state that will receive direct allocations but we are not sure yet about counties.

**Chris Chronis-** Anthony Swartzendruber is the chair of the Sustainability Committee and will be looking into this as well

### **Homeland Security- Bob Lamkey**

- There is no guidance yet on the fire construction grant.
- We Haven't seen anything regarding state and local programs that Sedgwick will be directly eligible for. There is some discussion about increasing some funding to the state to support regional homeland security initiatives. Randy Duncan is looking into that.

- Gary Curmode will continue to track the fire station grant. One fire station is still in the design phase and we will not execute a bid until the grant is fully understood.

#### **EPA- Irene Hart**

- Several of the programs are geared toward programs already in the pipeline. Some of the information isn't out yet and Susan is monitoring that.
- USDA programs- Watershed rehabilitation- we are looking into the lake Afton dam to see if it will qualify under that funding source.

**Chris Chronis-** Will the levy certification work Qualify?

**Irene Hart-** I will look and see. I don't think so.

#### **Diesel Emission Reduction- Charlene Stevens**

- Kevin is working on this. There is money allocated by KDHE for construction equipment, busses, and large trucks. Applications will be posted in May. The states allocation will be competitive with other states. KDHE has expressed interest in patterning with Sedgwick County in hopes of qualifying Kansas for a larger allotment.

#### **Department of Labor- Tim Kaufman**

- It appears everything will be going through WEA by formula. It doesn't look promising.
- The Administration on aging senior workforce program will be administered by Red Cross. The program will be expanded but will not be touching the county.

**Bill Buchanan-** What is workforce going to do? Do they have money to hire people?

**Tim Kaufman-** Most of the money is to increase unemployment and enrich that package but there may be some money for additional training for people.

#### **Health and Human Services- Bill Farney**

- Didn't find anything that would be funding for the county. There are three FQHC's in Sedgwick County and they stand to get about 2.3 million dollars over a 2 year period to expand services. There is not much Sedgwick County can do to help.

**Charlene Stevens-** It's my understanding they didn't have to do much to receive that money.

**Tim Kaufman-** Aging is going to get some additional money for the senior meals program but it's just an increase in formula. There may be some options available for COMCARE. There is a healthcare workforce program and right now, we are not underserved in any of the categories but they are going to lower the thresholds

so there may be opportunities for lone repayments for people we recruit if they lower the thresholds enough.

**Education- Charlene Stevens**

- Most of the money is going through the school district. We will not receive any of the money directly but it will benefit Sedgwick County in terms of benefiting USD 259.

**Highway Administration- Jim Weber**

- We are pushing one project and a second contingency project through WAMPO. The first is about \$2 million and the second is about \$700,000. We are shooting for a July letting on the \$2 million (Rock Road) project

**Transit Administration- Irene Hart**

- Wichita transit has received their formula allocation. The figures are not known.

**HUD- Irene Hart**

- We are not eligible for the Public Housing Capital fund and the assisted housing stability and energy and green retrofit program because we do not own public housing.
- The Community Development Block Grant workshop is at the end of April.
- Working on the first phase of the neighborhood stabilization program. This is the second phase we have to finish the first phase.
- HOME we don't have information on that yet and we think the state may be retaining funding to do their own work.
- Lead Hazard has a waiting list of unfunded projects at the state level so the available money has been allocated for those.

**Tim Kaufman**-Homeless prevention is geared towards renters not owners. The city will manage this program but it's to help people to avoid eviction. Mary K has identified \$200,000 in old CDBG funding that they are going to roll into the resource and referral center but it doesn't look like there will be any new money for that.

**Department of Defense- Charlene Stevens**

- I am still looking into facility repair but it doesn't look like there is going to be a lot there.

**Website Construction-Kristi Zukovich**

- A shell of the webpage is completed. It would be helpful to have a description of each grant we are going for that tells the public how it will benefit them.
- A status update will be given at the next meeting.

**Assignments for next meeting-Chris Chronis**

- For next weeks meeting please come back with at least 1 specific proposed use of stimulus funding for Sedgwick County. It would be a good idea to prepare a summary in the fashion that Kristy described. We want to know the effect it will have on the citizens and also how many jobs it will create. I understand this is difficult but let's do what we can. If we don't, somebody else will and they will get the money. Also, if you have an application already approved by the commission please get it to Kristi as soon as possible so she can get those descriptions on the website.