

Resolution No. 08-22

RESOLUTION URGING STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS TO USE EXPECTED 2021-2023 BUDGET SURPLUS TO FUND RURAL FIRE AND AMBULANCE EMERGENCY SERVICES

ROLL CALL Board Members table with columns: Board Members, Aye, Nay, Excu. Rows include Olson, Route, Warndahl, Nelson (Chairperson), LaBlanc, Ruck, Prichard, Kelly, O'Connell, Middleton, Luke (2nd Vice Chair), Duncanson, Arcand, Bonneprise (Vice Chair), Demulling.

BOARD ACTION section containing 'Vote Required: Simple Majority', 'Motion to Approve' with 'Adopted' checked, and 'Adopted by unanimous voice vote'.

Review section with signatures for Corp. Counsel, Administrator, and Finance. Includes 'FISCAL & LEGAL IMPACT:' section stating 'This resolution has no budgetary impact on the Polk County Operating budget. It is a lobbying resolution only.'

Certification: I, Lisa Ross, Clerk of Polk County, hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution that was adopted on the 24th day of February, 2022 by the Polk County Board of Supervisors. Lisa R. Ross, County Clerk, Polk County

1 TO THE POLK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:
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3 WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin is expected to have a budget surplus
4 of \$3.8 billion in fiscal period 21-23 according to the nonpartisan
5 Legislative Fiscal Bureau estimates; and
6 WHEREAS, as a result, Governor Evers has proposed a \$150 refund to
7 every Wisconsin resident; and
8 WHEREAS, the Polk County Board of Supervisors recognizes that
9 emergency services in rural areas around our State are struggling to keep
10 up with the costs of rising inputs not just recently but over the last many
11 years; and
12 WHEREAS, everyone expects that emergency services, such as
13 ambulance and fire response, to show up when needed, but few
14 understand the fiscal struggles many emergency service providers have
15 faced the last number of years in rural areas; and
16 WHEREAS, the current financing structure for public fire service comes
17 from property taxes that includes both residents and out-of-state property
18 owners, while ambulance services is paid for by only residents; and
19 WHEREAS, the State has no greater responsibility than the safety of its
20 people, and by using a small portion of the surplus funds to supplement
21 these important rural service providers, the State could go a long way in
22 securing the safety of all who live, work, and vacation in our great State;
23 and
24 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Polk County Board of
25 Supervisors encourages the Governor, in conjunction with the State
26 Legislators to use a portion of the \$3.8 billion surplus to fund Wisconsin's
27 rural emergency services.
28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Polk County Board of
29 Supervisors encourages our elected State officials to allocate \$30 per
30 resident to fund all public/government owned and operated ambulance
31 services and \$30 per resident to non-governmental ambulance agencies
32 serving a rural area covering less than 15000 residents and \$20 per
33 resident to fund volunteer fire departments, both in a pro-rata share based
34 upon population.

SUBMITTED BY: Brad Olson, Jay L... (handwritten signatures)