

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	Aye	Nay	Excu.
Olson			
Route			
Warndahl			
Nelson (Chairperson)			
LaBlanc			
Ruck			
Prichard			
Kelly			
O'Connell			
Middleton			
Luke (2 nd Vice Chair)			
Duncanson			
Arcand			
Bonneprise (Vice Chair)			
Demulling			

BOARD ACTION
Vote Required: Simple Majority

Motion to Approve Adopted

1st Warndahl Defeated

2nd Luke

Yes: _____ No: _____ Excu: _____

Adopted by unanimous voice vote

Reviewed by: _____, Corp. Counsel

Reviewed by: _____, Administrator

Reviewed by: _____, Finance

FISCAL & LEGAL IMPACT:
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 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.

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