



# Gaston County

Gaston County  
Board of Commissioners  
www.gastongov.com

## Elections Board Action

File #: 20-366

Commissioner Chad Brown - Elections - To Accept and Appropriate a Reimbursement Base Grant of Federal and State CARES Act Funds for Elections Preparations for the 2020 Election Cycle **(\$231,246)**

### STAFF CONTACT

Adam Ragan - Elections - 704-852-6015

### BUDGET IMPACT

Appropriate grant revenues. No additional County funds.

### BUDGET ORDINANCE IMPACT

Increase federal and state grant revenues up to \$231,246 and appropriate into Elections account as reimbursements.

### BACKGROUND

The Gaston County Board of Elections has received up to \$231,246 in a reimbursement base grant from federal and state funds from the CARES Act (P.L. 116-136) to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus pandemic during the 2020 federal election cycle. The Board Action accepts and appropriates these funds.

### POLICY IMPACT

N/A

### ATTACHMENTS

Budget Change Request (BCR), County Award Letter and Notice of Subgrant - 2020 CARES Act Funds

DO NOT TYPE BELOW THIS LINE

I, Donna S. Buff, Clerk to the County Commission, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of action taken by the Board of Commissioners as follows:

NO.	DATE	M1	M2	CBrown	JBrown	AFraley	BHovis	TKelgher	TPHilbeck	RWorley	Vote
2020-218	08/25/2020	RW	JB	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	U

### DISTRIBUTION:

Laserfiche Users

A=AYE, N=NAY, AB=ABSENT, ABS=ABSTAIN, U=UNANIMOUS

## GASTON COUNTY BUDGET CHANGE REQUEST

TO: Dr. Kim S. Eagle COUNTY MANAGER

FROM: 4170 Elections  
Dept. # Department Name

Adam Ragan 8/13/2020  
Department Director's Name Date

### TYPE OF REQUEST:

☐ Line Item Transfer Within Department & Fund

☐ Line Item Transfer Between Funds \*

☐ Project Transfer Within Department & Fund

☒ Additional Appropriation of Funds \*

☐ Line Item Transfer Between Departments\*

\* Requires resolution by the Board of Commissioners

ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION (As it appears in the budget)	ACCOUNT NUMBER	AMOUNT
	Fund - Function - Dept - Division - Object - Project	Whole Dollars Only
	xxx - xx - xxxx - xxxx - xxxxx - xxxxxx	(See Note Below)
2020 CARES Act Funds - BOE	010-01-4170-0000-420000-21536	(\$231,246)
Professional Services - CARES	010-01-4170-0000-530010-21536	\$30,000
Building Rental - CARES	010-01-4170-0000-530027-21536	\$40,000
Elections - CARES	010-01-4170-0000-530041-21536	\$161,246

### JUSTIFICATION FOR REQUEST:

Note: Decreases in expenditures & increases in revenue accounts require brackets. Increases in expenditures & decreases in revenue do not require brackets. Please note that transfers between funds require interfund transfer accounts.



# NORTH CAROLINA

## STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

*Mailing Address:*  
P.O. Box 27255,  
Raleigh, NC 27611

(919) 814-0700 or  
(866) 522-4723

*Fax:* (919) 715-0135

July 15, 2020

**To:** County Directors of Elections

**From:** Karen Brinson Bell, Executive Director  
Amy Strange, Chief Operating Officer

**Re:** 2020 Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security ("CARES") Act Funds &  
2020 Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Funds – Election Administration  
Preparedness for 2020 Federal Elections

This packet contains information on federal 2020 CARES Act funding and federal 2020 HAVA funding allocated to your county by the North Carolina General Assembly in Session Law 2020-17, sections 11.1, 11.2 and 11.3.

### **CARES Act Funds**

In March 2020, Congress passed, and the President signed into law, the CARES Act to deliver an economic relief package to assist the country in coping with the public health and economic impacts of COVID-19. The CARES Act includes \$400 million in emergency funds made available to states to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus for the 2020 federal election cycle. North Carolina's share of the federal funds is \$10,947,139. In June 2020, the North Carolina General Assembly passed, and the Governor signed into law, House Bill 1169, which appropriated required State matching funds of \$2,120,497. Each county board of elections will receive a portion of the State's CARES Act funding, which must be used in compliance with the requirements in S.L. 2020-17 and the federal 2020 CARES Act in connection with the November 3, 2020 General Election.

Each county has the option to either receive the county's CARES Act subgrant in an up-front, lump sum amount, or request that the State Board of Elections manage the county's CARES Act subgrant while following the county's spending directives. *A Grant Request Disbursal Package will be forthcoming to all counties by Friday, July 17, 2020.*

### **2020 HAVA Funds**

In December 2019, Congress passed, and the President signed into law, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2020. The Act includes \$425 million in new Help America Vote Act (HAVA) funds, made available to states to improve the administration of elections for Federal office, including to enhance technology and make election security improvements. North Carolina's share of the federal funds is \$11,677,441. In June 2020, the North Carolina General Assembly passed, and the Governor signed into law, House Bill 1169, which appropriated required State matching funds of \$2,335,488. Each county can receive reimbursements for eligible HAVA expenses, with a minimum reimbursement amount of \$10,000 per county. Counties can receive up to a maximum reimbursement of \$250,000, on a first-come, first-served basis until the total funds available are expended.

## NOTICE OF SUBGRANT -2020 CARES Act Funds

Subgrantee:	Gaston County Board of Elections	
Subgrantee Address:	410 W. Franklin Blvd., Ste. 50 Gastonia, NC 28052	
Agreement Number: 03-25-36	Budget Period: 7/1/2020 – 12/31/2020	
<b>Funds Description</b>		
This obligation of funds constitutes the Subgrantee’s share, as authorized under Session Law 2020-17, of \$10,947,139 of federal and \$2,120,497 of state matching funds awarded under the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, P.L. 116-136 for the 2020-2021 fiscal year to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus pandemic during the 2020 federal election cycle.		
<b>Funding Information</b>		
<b>Description</b>	<b>Permissible Uses</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Base Funding [S.L. 2020-17 Sec. 11.1(b)(1/2/3)]	Expenditures incurred to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus pandemic during the 2020 federal election cycle, including but not limited to: --Providing for increased postage costs for mail-in absentee ballots sent out by the county board of elections. --Ensuring an adequate number of poll workers by (i) use of advertising or public awareness campaigns or (ii) offering incentive compensation and other pay increases. --Recruiting members and promoting the use of multi-partisan assistance teams.	\$25,000
Second Primary Funding [S.L. 2020-17 Sec. 11.1(b)(4)]	Expenditures incurred to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus pandemic during the June 23 Second Primary election for federal office.	\$0
One-Stop Voting Funding [S.L. 2020-17 Sec. 11.1(b)(5)]	Early one-stop voting-related expenses that are specifically to prevent, prepare for and respond to the coronavirus pandemic.	\$132,392
Remaining Funding [S.L. 2020-17 Sec. 11.1(c)]	Expenditures incurred to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus pandemic during the 2020 federal election cycle.	\$73,854
Total CARES Act Funding		\$231,246

<b>Grant Administration</b>
Grant Administration Award recipients and sub-recipients must adhere to all applicable federal requirements including Office of Management and Budget (OMB) guidance: Title 2 C.F.R. Subtitle A, Chapter II, Part 200-Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (2 C.F.R. § 200).
<b>Reporting Requirements</b>
Counties receiving lump sum payments must send monthly reports accounting for the county's use of funds to the State Board of Elections by the following deadlines: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. September 16, 2020</li><li>b. October 16, 2020</li><li>c. November 16, 2020</li><li>d. December 16, 2020</li><li>e. January 15, 2021</li><li>f. February 16, 2021</li></ul> No reports are due from counties whose funds are managed by the State Board of Elections.