



Gaston County

Gaston County
Board of Commissioners
www.gastongov.com

Elections Board Action

File #: 20-367

Commissioner Chad Brown - Elections - To Accept and Appropriate a Reimbursement Base Grant of Federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Funds **(\$50,000)**

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 a minimum of \$50,000 and a maximum of \$250,000, depending on available HAVA funding, and appropriate into Elections account as reimbursements.

BACKGROUND

The Gaston County Board of Elections has received a minimum of \$50,000 and a maximum of \$250,000, depending on available funding, in a reimbursement base grant from federal HAVA funds in the federal Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2020 to improve the administration of federal elections.

POLICY IMPACT

N/A

ATTACHMENTS

Budget Change Request (BCR), County Award Letter and Notice of Subgrant - 2020 HAVA 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	TPhinbeck	WVorley	Vote
2020-219	08/25/2020	RW	JB	A	A	A	A	A			

DISTRIBUTION:

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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 Fund - Function - Dept - Division - Object - Project xxx - xx - xxxx - xxxx - xxxxx - xxxxxx	AMOUNT Whole Dollars Only (See Note Below)
2020 HAVA Funds Election - 21HAV	010-01-4170-0000-420000-21HAV 010-01-4170-0000-530041-21HAV	(\$50,000) \$50,000

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

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Raleigh, NC 27611

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(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 HAVA Funds

Subgrantee:	<i>Gaston County Board of Elections</i>
Subgrantee Address:	<i>410 W. Franklin Blvd., Ste. 50 Gastonia, NC 28052</i>
Agreement Number: NC20101001-36	Budget Period: 7/1/2020 – 6/30/2021
Funds Description	
This obligation of funds constitutes the Subgrantee's share, as authorized under Session Law 2020-17, of \$11,677,441 of federal and \$2,335,488 of state matching funds awarded under Election Security Grants in the federal Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2020 to improve the administration of federal elections.	
Funding Information	
Description	Amount
Reimbursement Minimum [S.L. 2020-17 Sec. 11.2.(a)]	\$10,000.00
Reimbursement Maximum [S.L. 2020-17 Sec. 11.2.(a)]	\$250,000.00, depending on available funding
Permissible Uses	
<p>Reimbursement-eligible expenditures are those incurred to improve the administration of federal elections, as authorized under HAVA Title I, Section 101, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving the administration of elections for Federal office, including to enhance election technology and make election security improvements • Educating voters concerning voting procedures, voting rights, and voting technology. • Training election officials, poll workers, and election volunteers. • Improving, acquiring, leasing, modifying, or replacing voting systems and technology and methods for casting and counting votes. • Improving the accessibility and quantity of polling places, including providing physical access for individuals with disabilities, providing non-visual access for individuals with visual impairments, and providing assistance to Native Americans, Alaska Native citizens, and to individuals with limited proficiency in the English language. • Establishing toll-free telephone hotlines that voters may use to report possible voting fraud and voting rights violations, to obtain general election information, and to access detailed automated information on their own voter registration status, specific polling place locations, and other relevant information. • Expenditures incurred to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus pandemic during 2020 federal elections. 	
Grant Administration	
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).	