

Richardson County releases ARPA Funds

(KLZA)-- Richardson County Commissioners voted 2-1 Tuesday to award \$427,157 in American Rescue Plan Act funds to three of the groups that had submitted applications.

Richardson County Rural Water District #2 will receive \$200 thousand, less than half the \$499,613 they applied for.

The City of Humboldt / Humboldt Volunteer Rescue Squad will receive \$130,000 which is half the amount they had applied for to purchase a new ambulance.

Richardson County Drainage District #7 was awarded \$97,157 for levee stabilization and improvements. They had applied for \$194,315.

Three entities applying for funds will not receive funding. Falls City EDGE has sought \$400,000 for housing improvements in Falls City. The Richardson County House of Hope applied for \$350 thousand for transitional housing and the Village of Rulo applied for \$51,860 for improvements to the Rulo Public Library.

Commissioner David Sickel cast the nay vote.

Sickel had made a motion to approve one-third of the requested ARPA funding for the same three groups that received funding. That would have been nearly \$318 thousand. The motion died due to the lack of a second.

A motion by Commissioner John Caverzagie to approve one-half of the requested funds for the three groups also died due to the lack of a second.

In April Commissioners decided to keep \$700 thousand in ARPA funds back to be used for various road and bridge projects, courthouse improvements and communication upgrades. Richardson County received approximately \$1,527,000 in ARPA funds, while requests for funding from various entities came to nearly \$1,756,000.

To this point, the County has spent nearly \$82 thousand of the total, including more than \$79 thousand on courthouse plumbing upgrades.

With the \$427,157 awarded Tuesday, plus the \$700 thousand the County will keep in reserves, it leaves a balance of approximately \$318,565 in ARPA funds.

Commissioners will be developing a plan for what to do with the remaining ARPA funds.

Many Signals Communications