



# **RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_\_**

## **OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF NEVADA**

### **RESOLUTION APPROVING THE GRANT AWARD AGREEMENT WITH THE CURIOUS FORGE, LLC FOR \$92,120 FOR THE “COMMUNITY RESILIENCY GRANT” FUNDED BY THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) AND AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO EXECUTE GRANT AGREEMENT WITH AWARDEE**

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, the Nevada County Board of Supervisors passed and adopted Resolutions 20-062, ratifying the declaration of a local health emergency in Nevada County, and 20-063, proclaiming a local emergency in Nevada County, due to rapid spread of COVID-19 in a growing number of countries, including the United States, and the potential introduction of COVID-19 in the County of Nevada; and

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, the Governor of California issued a statewide Executive Order, N-33-20, which required Californians to remain at their home or place of residence, except as necessary to carry out essential activities and to heed State Public Health Officer Directives; and

WHEREAS, the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) is a \$1.9 trillion economic stimulus package passed by Congress and signed by President Joseph Biden on March 11, 2021 in response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and associated economic challenges. ARPA included \$350 billion in State and Local Aid, which included \$65.1 billion in direct funding to counties. Based on US Treasury allocations, Nevada County has been allocated \$19,376,239 in funding; and

WHEREAS, on April 27, 2021, staff brought a preliminary ARPA Expenditure Plan to the Board for direction. The plan included a recommendation to allocate 30% of ARPA funds (\$5.8M) to “Community & Economic Resiliency” projects. This included four grants programs and one loan program, including the “Community Resiliency Grants” program, which was allotted up to \$2 Million to support eligible entities with programs and projects that respond to the negative economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and are designed to increase resiliency, support recovery, and provide relief; and

WHEREAS, on June 22, 2021, the Nevada County Board of Supervisors passed and adopted Resolution 21-284 authorizing various expenditures from the ARPA allocation including up to \$2 Million for the “Community Resiliency Grants” program; and

WHEREAS, on July 27, 2021, the Nevada County Board of Supervisors passed and adopted Resolution 21-339 approving the Request for Applications and award selection procedures for the Community Resiliency Grant Program and authorizing the Purchasing Division to advertise for qualified applications; and

WHEREAS, on October 12, 2021, the Nevada County Board of Supervisors passed and adopted Resolution 21-450, establishing a budget for the remainder of the first tranche of the ARPA allocation, including up to \$2,000,000 for Community Resiliency Grants to address the negative economic impacts of the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, 73 eligible applications were received totaling \$4,967,963 in requests; and

WHEREAS, a nine member evaluation panel (Panel), consisting of six community leaders and three county staff, met five times to review and score applications to provide the County Executive Officer (CEO) with a recommended list of eligible awardees; and

WHEREAS, the Panel presented recommendations to the CEO and the CEO identified thirty-two applications for recommendation to the Board of Supervisors for final approval and award; and

WHEREAS, on November 9, 2021 the Board passed and adopted Resolution 21-480, approving awards totaling \$1,991,884 in “Community Resiliency Grants” to thirty-two awardees recommended by the CEO and directing the Auditor-Controller to amend the Fund 1111 budgets accordingly and further directing staff to develop individual agreements with awardees to be brought back to the Board for authorization to execute; and

WHEREAS, Grant Award Recipient Agreements were developed on a case-by-case basis and reviewed with the Auditor-Controller to ensure the grantees are in good standing with the County; and

WHEREAS, Grant Award Recipients will enter in the attached “Grant Award Recipient Agreement” with the County, specifying the use the ARPA monies to cover only those eligible costs identified in the RFA and necessary for the COVID-19 public health emergency in accordance with federal guidance, and further affirming the Grant Award Recipient shall be responsible for reimbursement to County of any grant funding provided under this agreement that are determined by federal or state officials to be unauthorized expenditures, and additionally specifying that grant recipients will provide quarterly reports beginning in March 2022; and

WHEREAS, to promote transparency, required quarterly reporting will be posted on the County of Nevada’s American Rescue Plan “ARPA” web page; and

WHEREAS, The Curious Forge, LLC was among the thirty-two awardees approved for funding, having demonstrated that it experienced a negative impact or economic hardship as a result of the pandemic and is therefore eligible to receive assistance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Nevada, State of California, that:

The Grant Award Recipient Agreement awarding \$92,120 in a “Community Resiliency Grant” to The Curious Forge, LLC is hereby approved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chair of the Board of Supervisors is authorized to execute the grant agreement on behalf of the County of Nevada for the “Community Resiliency Grant” which is hereby approved and attached hereto.

Funds to be disbursed from 1111-10902-272-0209 / 532205