

**Item Title:** Accept and Appropriate \$28,575 in Federal Funds for Public Libraries

**Specific Action Requested:**

**That the Board of Commissioners accepts grant funding totaling \$28,575 from the North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources and appropriates the revenues and expenditures into the Grants and Donations Fund.**

**Item Summary:**

**Purpose:** The Board of Commissioners accepts and appropriates all grant funds.

**Background:** The Federal American Rescue Plan is providing funds through the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds that make their way through the NC General Assembly to the NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources for distribution to North Carolina Public Library Systems. The funds are specific to public libraries due to the impact of the pandemic and pandemic recovery.

**Strategic Plan:** The technology elements of this action support Lifelong Learning Goal 2: By 2029, increase by 5% the percentage of residents asked who share that they have access to quality educational opportunities.

**Fiscal Impact:** This action will accept and appropriate \$28,575 into the Grants and Donations Fund for use by the Wake County Public Libraries. No County match is required.

**Additional Information:**

At its April 17, 2023, meeting, the Board of Commissioners accepted and appropriated \$391,788 in funding from the same grant source. Those funds were to be used for four purposes:

**Technology (pilot programs)**

- Tutor.com – New subscription for Tutor.com an online tutoring company that connects students to tutors in online classrooms. The service offers on-demand and scheduled tutoring to students, from fourth grade through college. Users can connect with live tutors of more than 40 subjects online, including math, science, essay writing, foreign language and test prep.
  - Status Update: Completed, available to the public
- Online Learning Platform – New subscription for an online learning platform, such as LinkedIn Learning, enabling library patrons to discover and develop skills through an online library of high-quality expert-led videos on different topics. This service will be available for all library card holders.
  - Status Update: In progress

## **Equipment**

- Equipment – Funding will be used to replace aging multi-function (copier/printer/scanners) machines in public libraries across the County.
  - Status Update: In progress
  
- Security equipment: Funding will also cover one-time costs for security equipment, including distress buttons and exterior cameras, needed at multiple library facilities.
  - Status Update: Completed

The NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources has additional funding to distribute under this grant program, so they have awarded an additional \$28,575 to the Wake County Public Library System to be used under the same terms as the original grant agreement. The grant funding will be provided in a lump sum and must be encumbered or obligated by December 21, 2024, and expended by December 31, 2026. Standard quarterly reporting is required by the State.

### **Attachments:**

1. Award Letter
2. Budget Memo – FY 2025 Grants and Donations Fund