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P.O. Box 118 Brownwood, TX 76804 • (325) 643-2609 • Fax (325) 646-3031  
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**Date:** 04/24/2023

**To:** Brown County Commissioners

**From:** Chief M. Davis; BCWID #1 Lake Brownwood Lake Patrol.

**RE:** American Rescue Plan funding request justification:

**New Lake Patrol Boat Request:**

Requesting \$100,000.00 funding for the Purchase of a Custom Weld Bush 23, or similar designed boat for Public Safety / Law Enforcement / Emergency Operations.

**Currently Lake Patrol Boats:**

Brown County Water Improvement District #1 (BCWID) Lake Patrol boats consist of a Crestline, 2200 Bay, 2014 model that was purchased in December of 2013. The Crestline is designed as a fishing/recreational vessel for anglers. BCWID Lake Patrol utilizes the Crestline boat for daily public safety operations and is deployed in all types of weather and water conditions.

BCWID operates a 2019 Boatright Flat Bottom Bay Boat. The Boatright was purchased in 2019. The Boatright is designed for operating in flat calmer waters. Subsequently, this boat's operation can be limited by weather and lake conditions. The primary uses of this boat are maintenance, and daily public safety operations and patrol.

BCWID also operates a 2008 Boatright flat bottom boat. This boat was converted to a Fire / rescue boat in 2021. One of the fire boats primary operational uses is fire suppression in and around the lake for docks and boat fires. In addition, the Fireboat supports VFD's in and around Lake Brownwood. The Fireboats has the capability of providing an additional water source for fire suppression in and around areas of the lake that have limited access and/or limited or no fire hydrant infrastructure.

**Justification:**

Utilizing the ARP funding would allow BCWID Lake Patrol to replace aging Crestline 2200 Bay boat and purchase a boat engineered specifically for Public Safety / Law Enforcement / Emergency operations. Unlike the two-aluminum hulled Boatright boats, The Crestline 2200 Bay boat is a fiberglass hulled boat. The Crestline has started to deteriorate due to its daily use and design limitations, and will continue to degrade due to the extreme use.

Some of the maintenance issues encountered with the Crestline to date are electrical issues with the wiring harness, the fuel tank leak due to fuel cell housing breaking away from the boats hull structure, the tower structure has been replaced, and continually needs repaired due to the deck mounts breaking or tower structure breaking and cracking. At this rate our concern is that the Crestline is approaching

July 24, 2023

(Exhibit #5)

the end of its operational life span, and maintenance expenses associated with its continued use will continue to grow, and become cost prohibitive.

Due to the limitational operational use of Lake Patrols boats BCWID Lake Patrol, if granted the ARP funding, intends to purchase a Custom Weld Bush 23, or similarly designed boat. This all-aluminum hulled boat would provide years of operational service, (15 to 20 years). The service life span of this type of boat would be similar to the service life of BCWID Lake Patrol's Monark Boat. The Monark Boat went into patrol service in 1984 and was used until 2019.

The new Custom Weld Bush 23, or similarly designed boats, service life would outlast many other boat designs due to these boats having approximately 290 construction characteristics specifically designed for durability. These types of boats are designed specifically for public safety operations and the daily abuse associated with public safety operations. These boats are known for low maintenance costs, designed to perform in all types of water and weather conditions, and would provide a safe work / operational platform for both the officer and the general public. In addition, these types of public safety vessels allow departments to perform numerous public safety functions such as search and rescue operations, shallow water navigation, dive rescue operation, and swift water rescue operations.

**Motivation:**

Lake Brownwood is home to approximately one thousand one hundred docks, (1100). These docks are taxed by Brown County under three teers, Low-quality tax rate \$21.00/sf, Average-Quality Tax rate \$28.00/sf, and High-Quality tax rate 37.00/sf. Each of these docks are taxed by the total square foot to include all floor decking (upper and lower), and walkways. The approximate yearly revenue generated for Brown County from these docks on Lake Brownwood is approximately \$200,000.00, with an estimated total taxable property value of \$40,000,000.00.

By funding this project, you will be helping BCWID prevent raw water rate increases for a majority of Brown County citizens, due to the fact that BCWID's budget and funding is primarily derived from raw water sales to retail distributors. Using ARP funding for this project will help prevent BCWID from raising raw water sales rates in the future. Consequently, this project has the possibility of positively affecting and benefitting a majority of Brown County citizens financially.

**Expense:**

BCWID Lake Patrol conducted an equipment analysis over the past year and obtained several manufactures quote in an attempt to locate quality equipment and determine pricing and associated expenses. Subsequently, it was determined that the majority of Public Safety Crafts cost are between \$100,000 to \$200,000.

BCWID is Requesting \$100,000.00 to purchase a new Custom Weld Bush 23, or similar designed boat.

We would like to thank Brown County Commissioner Court for its time and consideration.

Respectfully.

Available Immediately  
\$300,000







