



Board of County Commissioners

Administrative Committee

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION FOR A RURAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT GRANT TO SUPPORT BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY AND ENTERPRISE PROJECTS IN RURAL COMMUNITIES**

**WHEREAS**, the USDA is making funding available under the Rural Business Development Grant program to support business opportunity and enterprise projects in rural towns, communities, state agencies, authorities, nonprofits, federally-recognized tribes, institutes of higher education and cooperatives; and

**WHEREAS**, the funding may be used to establish business support centers or to finance job training and leadership development in rural areas; and

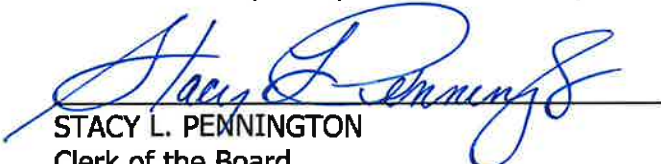
**WHEREAS**, the grant funding is contingent upon the project submission and availability of funds; and

**WHEREAS**, the Salem County Board of County Commissioners wishes to support business opportunity projects within Salem County.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Salem County Board of County Commissioners the authorization of an application to the USDA for a rural business development grant.

  
BENJAMIN H. LAURY, Director of the Board of County Commissioners

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true resolution adopted by the Salem County Board of County Commissioners on March 17, 2021.

  
STACY L. PENNINGTON  
Clerk of the Board

RECORD OF VOTE

| COMMISSIONER   | RESOLUTION MOVED | RESOLUTION SECOND | AYE | NAY | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|----------------|------------------|-------------------|-----|-----|---------|--------|
| G. Ostrum, Jr. |                  |                   | /   |     |         |        |
| E. Ramsay      |                  |                   | /   |     |         |        |
| L. Ware        |                  | /                 | /   |     |         |        |
| R.S. Griscom   | /                |                   | /   |     |         |        |
| B. Laury       |                  |                   | /   |     |         |        |

**MT. LAUREL, NJ - Feb 8, 2021** –The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) today announced that it is accepting applications to support economic development and create jobs in rural America.

USDA is making this funding available under the [Rural Business Development Grant](#) program for eligible entities to support business opportunity and enterprise projects in rural communities. Eligible entities are rural towns, communities, state agencies, authorities, nonprofits, federally-recognized tribes, institutes of higher education and cooperatives.

The funding may be used to establish business support centers or to finance job training and leadership development in rural areas. Projects must be consistent with any local and area-wide community and economic development strategic plans, support other economic development activities in the project area, and be consistent with any Rural Development state strategic plan. Funding for enterprise projects must be used to finance or develop small and emerging businesses in rural areas.

This year, USDA anticipates that part of the funding will be set aside for federally-recognized Native American tribes, Rural Empowerment Zone/Enterprise Communities/Rural Economic Area Partnerships, and [Strategic Economic and Community Development](#) (SECD) projects. USDA also anticipates a set-aside of funding for projects located in Persistent Poverty areas, including those of Native Americans.

Eligible applicants for the set-aside funds must demonstrate that at least 75 percent of the benefits of an approved grant will assist beneficiaries in the designated areas.

Applications must be submitted to the [nearest USDA office](#) by 4:30 p.m. local time on March 31, 2021. For additional information, see page 8610 of the Feb. 4, 2021, [Federal Register](#).

For New Jersey, please contact Maryann Tancredi, Business Programs Director. (See below)

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