

1 Supervisor Steve F. Taylor, Chairperson,
2 From the Committee on Economic and Community Development, reporting on:

3
4 File No. 15-554

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6 (ITEM) From the Director, Community Business Development Partners,
7 requesting authorization to provide grants in the amount of \$25,000 each to the
8 American Indian, Hmong, Hispanic, and the African American Chambers of Commerce
9 from the \$100,000 Milwaukee County Microloan Program, by recommending adoption
10 of the following:

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12 **A RESOLUTION**

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14 WHEREAS, the Milwaukee County 2013 Adopted Budget earmarked \$100,000
15 from the Potawatomi Allocation for the Microloan Program and designated Community
16 Business Development Partners (CBDP) as the administrator of the program; and

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18 WHEREAS, the maximum loan amount per applicant is \$5,000, and the
19 underwriting and loan servicing will be performed by a lending institution; and

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21 WHEREAS, finding no financial institution willing to service microloans with a
22 maximum loan amount of \$5,000, CBDP elected to service the loans pending finding a
23 financial organization to perform the underwriting services; and

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25 WHEREAS, CBDP was successful in negotiating with the Lincoln Opportunity
26 Fund, LLC, to provide the underwriting services for \$200 per applicant, for an estimated
27 \$4,000 per year; and

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29 WHEREAS, during contract negotiations, Corporation Counsel's review of the
30 contract language required the Lincoln Opportunity Fund, LLC, to name Milwaukee
31 County (the County) as an additional insured on the policy under General and
32 Automobile Liability; and

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34 WHEREAS, Lincoln Opportunity, Fund LLC, considered the requirement not
35 prudent for the level of service in the agreement, and informed the County that the
36 added requirement would increase Lincoln Opportunity Fund LLC's, insurance
37 premiums; and

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39 WHEREAS, Milwaukee County and the Lincoln Opportunity Fund, LLC, were
40 unable to reach an agreement before the 2015 Budget and the draft contract between
41 Milwaukee County and the Lincoln Opportunity Fund, LLC, was at an impasse; and

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43 WHEREAS, CBDP did not have the ability to perform both the underwriting and
44 loan servicing, and CBDP explored several alternatives, such as providing a one-time
45 grant to organizations administering a microloan program; and

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47 WHEREAS, keeping with the original intent to financially support Disadvantaged
48 Business Enterprise companies, the option of contributing to microloan programs
49 administered by the four minority chambers the American Indian, Hmong, Hispanic, and
50 the African-American Chambers of Commerce which each is successfully running a
51 microloan program that serves many of the County's certified firms was a viable option;
52 and

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54 WHEREAS, Corporation Counsel rendered an opinion that upon approval by the
55 Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors, the County can offer a one-time grant to the
56 four minority chambers; and

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58 WHEREAS, the Committee on Economic and Community Development, at its
59 meeting of October 26, 2015, recommended adoption of the Director's request
60 (vote 6-0); now, therefore,

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62 BE IT RESOLVED, Community Business Development Partners is hereby
63 authorized to issue one-time grants of \$25,000 each, totaling \$100,000, to the (1)
64 American Indian Chamber of Commerce; (2) African-American Chamber of Commerce;
65 (3) Hispanic Chamber of Commerce; and the (4) Hmong Wisconsin Chamber of
66 Commerce for exclusive use in their microloan programs; and

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68 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the agreement between the four chambers and
69 Milwaukee County will specify that the funds shall be loaned to Milwaukee County
70 certified companies and for three years the chambers shall provide annual updates on
71 the certified firms receiving loans.

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