

Resolution for Using Restricted Reserves for Purchasing Laboratory Equipment: Replacement of the Dionex Ion Chromatography System

The autosampler of the Dionex Ion Chromatography System - a machine that is vital to Public Health Madison & Dane County (PHMDC) laboratory operations and is used to conduct multiple tests - has failed and needs repair. If the machine is not replaced, the lab will not be able to continue serving the county by performing analysis of pool, well, lake and outfall samples.

Due to the Dionex Ion Chromatography System being in disrepair, the PHMDC laboratory is currently contracting an outside laboratory to perform licensed establishment pool samples. The licensing fees for pool operators include the routine sampling and testing of pool water for 446 Dane County public swim pools and water attractions. This is not a sustainable solution as outsourcing to an outside laboratory increases costs and results in longer test turnaround times for needed analyses.

Due to the age of the existing machine and high repair costs, estimated at \$3,000 for service call plus the estimated repair cost of \$15,000, the most fiscally responsible solution is to replace this equipment at a cost of approximately \$60,000. Beyond pool testing, a Dionex Ion Chromatography System is also capable of conducting the following tests: nitrate testing for transient non-community wells, fluoride, chloride, nitrate, nitrite, and sulfate testing for, drinking water, and hundreds of lake and outfall testing. These additional tests provide an invaluable service to our community and help to fund continued laboratory functions; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Public Health-Madison and Dane County is authorized to transfer funds from the licensed establishment restricted reserves to the 2022 Operating Budget in the amount of \$60,000 to fund the purchase of the Dionex Ion Chromatography System; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, Public Health-Madison and Dane County is authorized to amend the 2022 Public Health Operating Budget accordingly and the Director of Public Health, or their designee, is authorized to sign an agreement for purchase of the laboratory equipment outlined above.