Board Action Item

DATE: 10/21/2026

DEPARTMENT: Office of Grants

RE: Acceptance of New grant funds

BACKGROUND:

A. GRANT PROPOSAL TITLE: AI Small Business Development Initiative

B. GRANT AGENCY: U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)

C. GRANT APPLICATION DEADLINE: 7/27/2026
GRANT AWARD PERIOD: 08/01/2026 – 7/31/2029

D. PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION:
AI technology is a key driver of modern economic growth. JWCC proposes an AI Small Business training and economic development project to support the creation and development of small businesses in the Quincy region. JWCC plans to implement AI training workshops, offer small business development training, and provide customized one-on-one consulting to address specific business challenges. The ultimate goal is to equip aspiring and existing entrepreneurs with the skills and tools needed to adopt AI technologies effectively and enhance business growth.

E. FUNDS REQUESTED: $400,000 **FUNDS AWARDED: $400,000**

F. OBLIGATION OF INSTITUTIONAL FUNDS/RESOURCES:
All activities are paid for from the requested grant funds or are absorbed into budgeted activities. No match is required for this grant.

G. PERSONNEL POSITIONS REQUIRED:
Current staff will oversee the activities associated with this grant. Outside consultants will be hired/subcontracted.

H. (DATE) GRANT APPLICATION SUBMITTED TO BOARD: 7/22/2026

J. (DATE) BOARD APPROVED ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDS: 10/21/2026