

RESOLUTION NO. 07-04-17
SUPPORT FOR GROUNDWATER PROGRAMS

WHEREAS, good quality groundwater in sufficient quantity is a basic resource that all citizens and businesses in the State of Wisconsin, as well as Waushara County, rely upon; and

WHEREAS, the citizens and businesses of our great state and county expect state government to monitor and protect the groundwater in our state in such a way that we may all prosper; and

WHEREAS, negative implications to the citizens and businesses of the state from not having comprehensive groundwater programming in place could be catastrophic; and

WHEREAS, there exists limited protection and permitting measures that are based on scientific research and prospective modeling on a statewide basis; and

WHEREAS, there exists limited funding sources to plan and implement statewide groundwater programming to protect groundwater resources to ensure sufficient quantity and quality of the groundwater resource, that provides protection to those citizens and businesses that rely upon those resources; and

WHEREAS, the potential for unchecked groundwater withdrawals continues to grow statewide, becoming an ever increasing threat to groundwater quantity and quality, and there are few additional resources available to study and attempt to mitigate this threat; and

WHEREAS, the potential for groundwater depletion as well as contamination continues to grow statewide, because of cumulative effects; and

WHEREAS, Waushara County concurs with the Wisconsin Counties Association on two legislative priorities as stated below:

1. Enact comprehensive groundwater quantity legislation that balances the need to protect groundwater from contamination and overuse while respecting the needs of the agricultural economy.
2. Ensure that counties have input with the DNR in establishing groundwater quantity criteria that are appropriate in each county and reflect decisions made at the local level.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Waushara County Board of Supervisors respectfully encourages the state legislature to support aspects of SB22, AB50, SB76 and AB105 that call for the development and utilization of scientific research that leads to sound groundwater management plans for all areas of the state, but especially those areas that are currently experiencing quantity and quality issues from increased groundwater withdrawals; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Waushara County Board of Supervisors respectfully encourages the state legislature to prioritize establishment of a committee to develop a groundwater management plan in the uncontained aquifer known as the "Central Sands" that considers the adverse impacts and potential benefits to all users of groundwater resources; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Waushara County Board of Supervisors supports making available additional resources to plan and implement statewide groundwater programming that will lead to better understanding, protection, and utilization of our groundwater resources, as well as protect the citizens, businesses, and natural features that rely on clean groundwater in sufficient quantity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be directed to the attention of the state legislators, the governor, and the directors of DNR, DATCP, and the Wisconsin Counties Association.

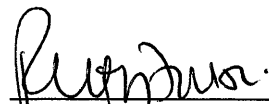
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Ayes ___ Nays ___ Abstain ___ Absent ___ Voice Vote

Approved and adopted this 18th day of April 2017.


Denied this 18th day of April 2017.

Approved as to Form:




Ruth Zouski
Corporation Counsel

Submitted by:




Bernadette Krentz, Chair
Land, Water and Education Committee

Attest:



Melanie R. Stake
Waushara County Clerk

Signed by:



Donna R. Kalata, Chair
Waushara County Board of Supervisors