

**Relating to Providing Adequate Resources to Support County Land Conservation and Cost-Sharing for Farmers and Other Land Users**

The County Board of Supervisors of Green Lake County, Green Lake, Wisconsin, duly assembled at its regular meeting begun on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of April 2017, does resolve as follows:

**WHEREAS**, the Green Lake County Land Conservation Department is the necessary local delivery mechanism for a wide range of natural resource management programs including non-point pollution control, lakes protection, invasive species control, woodland management; and

**WHEREAS**, the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation:

- Supports the concept of credit trading and adaptive management between municipalities and the agriculture community to reduce phosphorus discharge
- Urges the state to stop the spread of invasive species into Wisconsin
- Supports adequate funding to local units of government to implement the nonpoint program, provided that local regulations do not exceed state standards

**WHEREAS**, the Wisconsin Board of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection acknowledges the counties' statutory role in coordinating and implementing farm conservation standards at the local level, and supports efforts to ensure that adequate resources are available for counties to do their job; and

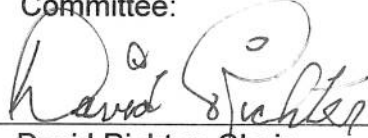
**WHEREAS**, County Land Conservation staff supported by state grants have decreased since the program began; and

Roll Call on Resolution No. 10- 2017

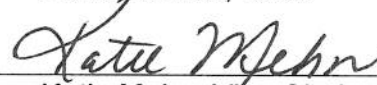
Ayes<sup>0</sup>, Nays<sup>0</sup>, Absent<sup>9</sup>, Abstain<sup>0</sup>

Passed and ~~Rejected~~ Adopted this 18<sup>th</sup> day of April 2017.

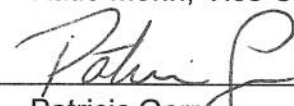
Submitted by Land Conservation Committee:



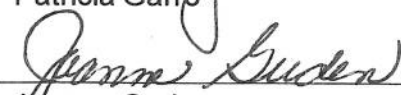
David Richter, Chair



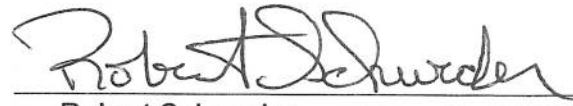
Katie Mehn, Vice Chair



Patricia Garro



Joanne Guden



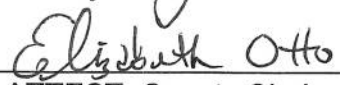
Robert Schweder



Arnold Dahlke, FSA Member

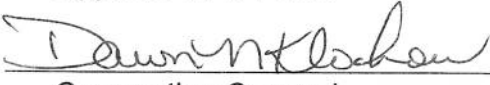


County Board Chairman



ATTEST: County Clerk

Approve as to Form:



Corporation Counsel

**WHEREAS**, the Governor's budget has not requested maintenance of the annual average staff funding of \$9.3 million that were included in the pre-recession budgets from 2001-2011, thus reducing the funding to \$8 million annually in the 2017-19 budget; and

**WHEREAS**, the Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA) 2017 statewide policy recognizes the value of the work County Land Conservation Departments provide to farmers and Wisconsin citizens by supporting adequate resources to implement maintaining this base level of funding; and

**WHEREAS**, the inability to adequately fund local, voluntarily accepted farm conservation practices has led to environmental problems and increasing citizen suits and court decisions against farmers; now

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Green Lake County Board of Supervisors, duly assembled this 18<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2017 does hereby urge the Governor of the State of Wisconsin and all elected representatives in the Wisconsin State Legislature to return to the \$9.3 million appropriation for state aid to counties, recognizing the invaluable service that county conservation employees provide in helping Wisconsin farmers grow our state's agriculture while preserving the state's land and water resources for future generations.