RESOLUTION # \_\_\_\_\_\_\_-2023

Resolution to Accept the USDA-NRCS Cooperative Conservation Agreement Grant, Authorize the Creation of a Full-Time Conservation Specialist and to Amend the 2023 Land Resources and Environment Budget

Resolution offered by the Land Resources and Environment Committee, Finance Committee, and Personnel & Insurance Committee

Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Sauk County, Wisconsin:

**BACKGROUND:** The Sauk County Land Resources and Environment Department (LRE) was awarded a Cooperative Conservation Agreement Grant from The United States Department of Agriculture – Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS). This grant provides 100% funding for four years towards a staff position within the LRE Department to build capacity for improved soil health and farm productivity and resilience in Sauk County. A detailed summary of the award agreement is attached as Appendix A.

The primary objectives of the agreement include, but are not limited to: provide staffing support for conservation technical assistance and farm bill program delivery throughout Sauk County, specifically impaired waters; provide outreach and education on climate-smart soil health and productivity and climate resilience to Sauk County producers through implementation of the Sauk County Land and Water Resource Management Plan; and build capacity of the Sauk County LRE to implement the Sauk County Farm Property Master plan. The grant officially begins October 1, 2023 and ends September 30, 2028. The grant may be extended additional years dependent on USDA-NRCS funding availability.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** the LRE may create a full-time Conservation Specialist position (Appendix B) and hire for said position once the grant commences to coordinate and implement the project during the grant period. The position will end once the grant funding ends.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the 2023 budget be amended to appropriate $24,884.82 for the fourth quarter of 2023.

Approved for presentation to the County Board~~,~~ this 19th day of September 2023.

Consent Agenda Item: [ ] YES [ ] NO

Fiscal Impact: [ ] None [ ] Budgeted Expenditure [X] Not Budgeted

Vote Required: Majority = \_\_\_\_\_ 2/3 Majority = \_\_\_\_\_ 3/4 Majority = \_\_\_\_\_

The County Board has the legal authority to adopt: Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as reviewed by the Corporation Counsel, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Offered and passage moved by:

**LAND RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

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MARTY KRUEGER, CHAIR PETER KINSMAN, VICE CHAIR

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ROBERT SPENCER VALERIE MCAULIFFE

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LYNN EBERL RANDY PUTTKAMER

**PERSONNEL & INSURANCE COMMITTEE** **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

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CARL GRUBER, CHAIR MARTY KRUEGER, CHAIR

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PETER KINSMAN RICHARD “MIKE” FLINT

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TERRY SPENCER LYNN EBERL

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ROBERT PROSSER THOMAS DORNER

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JAKE ROXEN TIMOTHY MCCUMBER

Fiscal Note: The program cost and funding for the fourth quarter of 2023 is $24,884.82. No levy dollars are needed to fund any aspect associated with this position. The remainder of the grant budget is included in Appendix A.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Program Funding: (USDA-NRCS) |  | $24,884.82 |
| 2023 Budgeted Levy |  | 0.00 |
| General Fund Balance |  | 0.00 |
| TOTAL |  | $24,884.82 |
| Program Expenses:  Staff |  | $ 14,795.25 |
| Benefits |  | $ 5,345.75 |
| MIS Equipment/Supplies |  | $ 4,743.82 |
|  |  |  |
| TOTAL |  | $ 24,884.82 |

MIS Note: MIS equipment (included above) would consist of a cell phone, laptop, and annual computer and software licensing cost for staff.