RESOLUTION #

Resolution Supporting the Establishment of the Woodland Agricultural Enterprise Area in the Town of Woodland

Resolution offered by the Land Resources and Environment Committee

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

**BACKGROUND:** An Agricultural Enterprise Area (AEA) is an area of contiguous land, devoted primarily to agricultural use, as designated by the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection (DATCP) through the Wisconsin’s Working Lands Initiative in response to a local petition. The designation of an AEA identifies an area as valuable for current and future agricultural uses and may help to promote the development of agricultural businesses.

An AEA designation enables eligible farmers to enter into voluntary Farmland Preservation Agreements with the Wisconsin DATCP for a 10-year period and to receive income tax credits in return for preserving their land in agricultural use and meeting state agricultural performance standards. The petition for establishment of an AEA must be jointly filed by at least five eligible farmers within the boundaries of the proposed AEA, and by each county, town, or municipality in which any part of the proposed AEA is located.

In February 2024, Sauk County staff were approached by landowners in the Town of Woodland seeking assistance with establishing an AEA. Establishing an AEA in the Town of Woodland is the only opportunity for these landowners to enter into new voluntary agreements and be eligible for the Farmland Preservation tax credit. The completed AEA petition application is attached as Appendix A. On May 13, 2024, the Woodland Town Board approved a resolution supporting the establishment of the Woodland AEA.

**NOW, THERFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** by the Sauk County Board of Supervisors, met in regular session, that the County of Sauk supports the establishment of the Woodland Agriculture Enterprise Area within Sauk County, Wisconsin.

Approved for presentation to the County Board by the Land Resources and Environment Committee, this 16th day of July 2024.

Consent Agenda Item: [ ] YES [ ] NO

Fiscal Impact: [ ] None [X] Budgeted Expenditure [ ] 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**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Aye  Nay  Abstain  Absent

Lynn Eberl

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Peter Kinsman

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 Marty Krueger

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Aye  Nay  Abstain  Absent

 Brandon Lohr

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Aye  Nay  Abstain  Absent

 Valerie McAuliffe

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Aye  Nay  Abstain  Absent

 Dennis Polivka

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Aye  Nay  Abstain  Absent

 Robert Prosser

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 Robert Spencer

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 Randall Puttkamer

Fiscal Note: No impact.

MIS Note: No information systems impact.