

RESOLUTION NO. _____ - 2017

**AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF CONSERVATION, PLANNING, AND ZONING
TO EXECUTE A CROP LAND RENTAL AGREEMENT AT THE SAUK COUNTY
FARM**

Background: Sauk County owns approximately 259 acres of tillable land, known as the Sauk County Farm in Sections 27, 28, 33, and 34, town of Reedsburg, located adjacent to the former Sauk County Health Care Center. The Sauk County Farm is used as a demonstration site, which showcases new and innovative conservation practices that prevent soil erosion and reduce agricultural runoff to protect groundwater and surface water resources. Cropland is leased to a local farmer every five years and a competitive bidding procedure is used to solicit bids for renting this land.

Fiscal Impact: [☐] None [☒] Budgeted Expenditure [☐] Not Budgeted

WHEREAS, Jason Bergman of Loganville submitted the high bid of \$166.02 per acre and should be awarded an agreement for renting this land for a period of five years beginning March 1, 2018 and ending February 28, 2023.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Sauk County Board of Supervisors, met in regular session, that Sauk County supports leasing of the Sauk County farm for the purpose of growing agricultural crops and demonstrating conservation practices; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Director of Conservation, Planning, and Zoning is hereby authorized to execute a five-year land rental agreement and any minor wording amendments thereafter.

For consideration by the Sauk County Board of Supervisors on December 19, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

SAUK COUNTY CONSERVATION, PLANNING, AND ZONING COMMITTEE

DENNIS POLIVKA, Chair

CHUCK SPENCER

JUDY ASHFORD

JOHN DIETZ

CLARK PETTERSON

MIKE FLINT

Fiscal Note: County farm cropland lease payments to the county will amount to \$43,000 per year, for a total of \$215,000 over the five-year period. Revenue from all leased land of \$50,000 and expenses of \$15,000 related to farm building and fence maintenance are also included in the 2018 budget.

MIS Note: No information systems impact.