

RESOLUTION NO. _____ - 2018

**AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF CONSERVATION, PLANNING, AND ZONING
TO ENTER INTO A FIVE-YEAR REGIONAL CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP
PROGRAM AGREEMENT WITH THE USDA-NATURAL RESOURCES
CONSERVATION SERVICE AND EXTEND THE TERM OF EMPLOYMENT FOR
THE RCPP MANAGER PROJECT POSITION.**

Background: The Baraboo River Watershed Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) will focus on improving water quality within the Baraboo River Watershed in Sauk County and Juneau County through the promotion and installation of soil and water conservation practices. The RCPP will be a partnership between USDA-NRCS, Sauk County Conservation, Planning and Zoning Dept., Juneau County Land and Water Resources Dept., and The City of Reedsburg. The partners will focus on agricultural areas, which contribute phosphorus and sediment loading to surface waters. Watershed improvement activities will be carried out by collaborating partner agencies utilizing partner-provided financial and technical assistance. There is a one-to-one dollar match requirement for the project. For every dollar USDA-NRCS provides in financial assistance, the other partners will contribute a dollar in financial or technical assistance.

This project is a continuation of an existing RCPP project in the Baraboo River Watershed, which covers all six counties in the watershed. The term of employment for the project position charged with managing the existing RCPP project is scheduled to expire December 31, 2019. The new RCPP project will begin near the end of 2018 and continue through to December 31, 2023. In order for Sauk County and the other partners to meet the funding match requirements of the project, the term of employment for the RCPP program manager project position must be extended to December 31, 2023. The project has already been pre-approved for funding by USDA-NRCS. If the agreement is signed, USDA-NRCS will provide \$1,073,000 in financial assistance available for use in the Baraboo River Watershed of Sauk County and Juneau County.

Fiscal Impact: ☐ None ☒ Budgeted Expenditure ☐ Not Budgeted

WHEREAS, the Director of Conservation, Planning, and Zoning must sign a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in order to accept the new Baraboo River Watershed RCPP project proposal. The MOU outlines the responsibilities and expectations of those entering into the partnership. ,.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Sauk County Board of Supervisors, met in regular session, that the Director of Conservation, Planning, and Zoning is hereby authorized to sign the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the RCPP with USDA-NRCS.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Director of Conservation, Planning, and Zoning is hereby authorized to extend the term of employment for the existing RCPP Manager position to December 31, 2023.

For consideration by the Sauk County Board of Supervisors on May 15, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

SAUK COUNTY CONSERVATION, PLANNING, AND ZONING COMMITTEE

DENNIS POLIVKA, Chair

CHUCK SPENCER

JUDY ASHFORD

JOHN DIETZ

CLARK PETTERSON

MIKE FLINT

Fiscal Note: Tax levy funding of \$80,000 to continue to fund a full-time project staff position. This position has been included in the CPZ budget since 2015 and is used as a match towards the RCPP grant. See Attachment A for the full RCPP proposal and Attachment B for the RCPP Program Manager Project position description.

MIS Note: No new MIS impact.