RESOLUTION # 2019-16

County Forest Administration Grant Program

To the Honorable members of the Burnett County Board of Supervisors;

WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin and many Wisconsin Counties have a long and rich history managing timber; and

WHEREAS, the sustainable management of timber resources greatly contributes to Wisconsin’s industry, commerce, and economic development activities; and

WHEREAS, the State recognizes the important County partnership by providing the County Forest Administration Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, the Grant program has been used to fund the Burnett County Forest Assistant Administrator position since 1999; and

WHEREAS, the requirements for funding this position can be found in the definition of forester within NR 47.70(2)(e) NR 1.21(2)(e): “Forester” means a person other than one employed by the department who has received a bachelor’s or higher degree in forestry from a school of forestry with a curriculum accredited by the Society of American Foresters or an equivalent degree, as determined by the chief state forester; and

WHEREAS, it is becoming more and more difficult to find individuals in Northern Wisconsin that fit this definition of a forester; and

WHEREAS, Burnett County has asked, and been denied, multiple requests of the Chief State Forester to consider that our existing Forest Administrator with a two-year forestry degree and over 20 years of service, qualify for this grant; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin County Forest Association Board voted to support our request and the state still denied it; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Burnett County is seeking a change to the Forester definition within NR 47.70(2)(e) NR 1.21(2)(e): to read, “Forester” means a person other than one employed by the department who has received a bachelor’s degree in forestry from a school of forestry with a curriculum accredited by the Society of American Foresters or an equivalent degree, including a two year forestry degree with a minimum of 10 years’ experience in a County Forestry Department, or as determined by the Chief State Forester.
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County Forest Administration Grant Program

Respectfully submitted by the Natural Resources Committee,
Signed and dated this 9th day of May, 2019.

State of Wisconsin
County of Burnett

I, Wanda Hinrichs, the duly elected and qualified County Clerk in and for Burnett County, do hereby certify that the attached resolution 2018-16 County Forest Administration Grant Program, was adopted by the Burnett County Board of Supervisors at a legally assembled meeting at which a quorum was present and acted throughout. The date of passage was May 23, 2019.

Wanda Hinrichs,
Burnett County Clerk