RESOLUTION 22-2014-2016

RE: SUPPORT OF WISCONSIN WOLF POPULATION OF 350 OR LESS

TO: THE HONORABLE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE PORTAGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) established a wolf population goal of 350 animals in 1999, and reaffirmed this population goal in 2007, based on prey availability and human population density, and nothing has happened to increase prey availability or decrease human density in the intervening years; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin DNR plans to review and revise the previous Wolf Management Plan, adopted in 1999 and revised in 2007; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and Wisconsin Farm Bureau have officially approved a Wisconsin wolf goal of 350 or less; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Conservation Congress Spring Hearings (2011) overwhelmingly supported a Wisconsin wolf population of 350 or less; and

WHEREAS, 21 County Boards in northern and west central Wisconsin have passed resolutions that recommend a wolf population goal of 350 (5 Boards) or 350 or less (16 Boards); and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin’s residents have experienced depredations and threatening incidents involving wolves, including 81 incidents to animals and six threats to human safety in 2013, occurring in 21 counties; and

WHEREAS, the high predator population, in particular wolves, has resulted in the reduction of the deer population where wolves are plentiful, reduced hunting opportunities, curtailed livestock and pleasure horse activities, and are a danger to pets and people.

FISCAL NOTE: There are no fiscal obligations for the county associated with this resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Portage County Board of Supervisors advises that Wisconsin approve a wolf population goal of 350 or less in the next revision of the Wisconsin Wolf Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Portage County Board of Supervisors requests that the Wisconsin DNR and other partners implement meaningful population controls in the next Wisconsin Wolf Plan to bring the wolf population to goal levels.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Portage County Board of Supervisors request that the Wisconsin DNR not relocate wolves that have caused problems in Wisconsin or other areas into any County in Wisconsin.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution will be forwarded to DNR Secretary Cathy Stepp, DATCP Secretary Ben Brancel, Governor Scott Walker, and State and Federal Legislators.

DATED THIS 15TH DAY OF JULY, 2014

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

PORTAGE COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

[Signatures]

Dale O'Brien, Vice Chair
Allan Haga, Jr.
Roger Bacon
CERTIFICATION

I, Shirley M. Simonis, Clerk of the County of Portage, Wisconsin do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Resolution/Ordinance No. 22-2014-2016

RE: SUPPORT OF WISCONSIN WOLF
POPULATION OF 350 OR LESS

which was introduced and adopted by a vote of:

22 for

2 against Gifford, Suomi

___ abstained

___ vacant

1 excused Krems

at an Adjourned Session of the Portage County Board of Supervisors, held on the 15th day of July, 2014, and recorded in the minutes of said meeting, a quorum of members being present.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the County of Portage, Wisconsin, this 17th day of July, 2014.

[Signature]
SHIRLEY M. SIMONIS
Portage County Clerk (SEAL)