



# DOUGLAS COUNTY

## COUNTY BOARD CHAIR

Mark Liebaert

1316 N. 14<sup>th</sup> Street • Suite 301

Superior, WI 54880

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### DOUGLAS COUNTY MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Douglas County is to provide cost-effective services, with equal access to all citizens; to continue and enhance partnerships; to responsibly manage our resources and plan for the future.

TO: Governor Walker  
Wisconsin Counties Association  
Wisconsin State Legislators

SUBJECT: Douglas County Resolution #57-16  
Protect Town, Village, County and State Lands from  
Spread of CWD by Captive Cervid Operations

Attached is above referenced Resolution #57-16, adopted by the Douglas County Board of Supervisors at their September 15, 2016, meeting.

Your support for the intent of this Resolution is appreciated.

Best regards,

Mark Liebaert, Chair  
Douglas County Board of Supervisors  
mark.liebaert@douglascountywi.org  
715-395-1493

ML/pt

Roll Call		
District Number	Yes	No
1. Pomush		
2. White		
3. Finn		
4. Clark		
5. Baker		
6. Paine		
7. Glazman		
8. Robinson		
9. Jaques		
10. Quam		
11. Finendale		
12. Lear		
13. Allen		
14. Ryan		
15. Hendrickson		
16. Luostari		
17. Liebaert		
18. Corbin		
19. Mock		
20. Conley		
21. Bergman		
Roll: Ayes _____ Noes _____ Absent _____ Abstain _____  Passed ___X___ Lost _____ Refer _____ Amend ___X___ Other _____		
Rev. 04/19/16		

**RESOLUTION #57-16  
RESOLUTION BY THE DOUGLAS COUNTY BOARD OF  
SUPERVISORS**

Subject: Protect Town, Village County and State Lands from Spread of CWD by Captive Cervid Operations

WHEREAS, current science supports the theory that Captive Cervid Operations pose a significant threat to Wisconsin's wild deer herd due to potential CWD transmission; that CWD is one of the greatest threats to our wild deer population; that deer escapes, nose to nose contact, and fence failures are causative factors in the transmission of CWD to our wild deer and can introduce prions (rogue proteins which cause CWD) into our environment, and

WHEREAS, approximately 24 of 72 Wisconsin counties have CWD and it is expanding annually; there currently is nothing that can cure it, stop it, or eradicate it from the environment; prevention is the key to slowing down the expansion of this disease in Wisconsin, and

WHEREAS, the two most recent discoveries of CWD occurred on captive Cervid Operations in Oneida and Eau Claire Counties where no CWD had ever been found; one of these had 35 positive CWD deer, a history of multiple escapes, and received \$290,000.00 of taxpayer money to depopulate the operation, and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin deer herd is a critically important source of food, recreation, and tradition to the more than 800,000 firearms and archery hunters in the state, and provides an essential economic impact of over 1 billion dollars annually to state and local businesses; in addition, federal Pittman Robertson taxes derived from purchases of the associated sporting gear provides wildlife funding for a myriad number of other species, and

WHEREAS, currently there is little or no notification of town, village and county officials for Captive Cervid Operations, and

WHEREAS, it is crucial that towns, villages, and counties protect their resources for the benefit of current and future generations of citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Douglas County Board of Supervisors recommend that Governor Scott Walker and the Wisconsin Counties Association work with the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and

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Roll: Ayes _____ Noes _____ Absent _____ Abstain _____  Passed ___X___ Lost _____ Refer _____ Amend ___X___ Other _____		
Rev. 04/19/16		

the Wisconsin legislature to take action to avoid the potential damage Captive Cervid Operations can cause and require the following:

- Captive Cervid Operations to notify town, village and county officials where the planned Captive Cervid Operation will be located at the start of the application process.
- Ground apron fencing on the external perimeter of the fences to prevent predators from digging under the fence, and to assist in preventing cervid escapes or contact.
- Electronic warning devices to be installed on fences to detect breaches or open gates.
- Captive Cervid Operations to maintain double fences around the periphery of the property.
- Operators to maintain liability insurance to cover any costs or damages to the state or county and to the wild deer herd resulting from the escape of cervids from the farm.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon passage, the County Board of Supervisors directs the County Clerk to send a copy of this resolution to Governor Scott Walker and the Wisconsin Counties Association, **and Wisconsin state legislators.**

Dated this 15<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2016.

(Committee Action: Unanimous)  
 (Fiscal Note: None)

ACTION: Motion by Hendrickson, second Corbin, to adopt. Motion by Allen, second Baker, to amend and sponsor by County Board and send copies to state legislators. Motion carried. Motion to adopt resolution as amended, carried.

Certified by Douglas County Clerk  
 Susan T. Sandvick  
 September 16, 2016