RESOLUTION NO. 16 - 114

A Resolution Opposing The U.W. Cooperative Extension Reorganization Plan.

WHEREAS the U.W. Cooperative Extension System has a proven track record of success over more than 100 years as a single-county-based model for governance, locally-set tax levy contribution and county-determined educational program priorities under the oversight of a county committee designated by the county board, and

WHEREAS a Reorganization Plan for the U.W. Cooperative Extension was approved by U.W. Chancellor Sandeen on February 10th, 2016 and the process used to develop this Plan was flawed as there was inadequate provision for meaningful input and consideration of county concerns and, furthermore, the Plan calls for a drastic change in rural county Extension programs, shifts a greater portion of Extension resources to urban areas, reduces educator positions in rural counties and adds a new layer of administrative overhead not accountable to county boards, and

WHEREAS the Plan jeopardizes the partnership between the U.W. System and Wisconsin counties, a partnership built on communication, collaboration and engagement and Wisconsin counties, including Richland County, are unlikely to continue the current level of county tax levy support for the Extension in future years if direct educational services are significantly decreased, thereby making the U.W. Cooperative Extension financially unsustainable.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Richland County Board of Supervisors that the County Board hereby expresses its opposition to the U.W. Cooperative Extension Reorganization Plan which was approved by Chancellor Sandeen on February 10th, 2016, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Clerk is hereby directed to send a copy of this Resolution to all Wisconsin County Clerks, to the Wisconsin Counties Association, to Governor Scott Walker, to University President Ray Cross, to all members of the U.W. Board of Regents and to all State legislators whose districts include any portion of Richland County, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its passage and publication.

VOTE ON FOREGOING RESOLUTION
AYES _______ NOES _______

RESOLUTION _____ Adopted_____

VICTOR V. VLASAK
COUNTY CLERK

DATED____August 16, 2016____

RESOLUTION OFFERED BY THE AGRICULTURE AND EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE

FOR AGAINST

VICTOR V. VLASAK
COUNTY CLERK

STATE OF WISCONSIN)

COUNTY OF RICHLAND)

I, Victor V. Vlasak, County Clerk in and for the County of Richland, do hereby certify that the above resolution is a true copy of the original adopted by the Richland County Board of Supervisors at the August meeting held on the 16th day of August, 2016.

VICTOR V. VLASAK
Richland County Clerk