

LANGLADE COUNTY



RESOLUTION #18-2017

INTRODUCED BY: FORESTRY AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

INTENT: EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR RESTORATION OF FUNDING FOR COUNTY FOREST ADMINISTRATION GRANT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, Langlade County has land entered into the Wisconsin County Forest Law (County Forest Law), ss. 28.10 and 28.11 Stats. and is a member of the Wisconsin County Forest Association (WCFA); and

WHEREAS, the WCFA is a nonprofit organization that represents the forestry interests of 29 member counties with 2.4 million acres of forest lands entered into the County Forest Law; and

WHEREAS, the WCFA also provides leadership and counsel to each county's forest administrator and functions as an organizational liaison to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (department); and

WHEREAS, §28.11(5m)(am). Stats., authorizes the department to make grants, from the appropriation under s. 20.370 (5)(bw), Stats., to counties having lands entered under the County Forest Law in order to fund up to 50 percent of the costs of a county's annual dues to the WCFA; and

WHEREAS, historically, the total amount that the department could award in grants under this provision in any fiscal year could not exceed \$50,000; and

WHEREAS, while the statutory language remains in place, the State's 2015-17 biennial budget eliminated the \$50,000 grant for organizational dues payment; and

WHEREAS, Langlade County depends on the funds from the County Forest Administration Grant to assist in the operations and funding of the Langlade County Forest for the public's benefit; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin forestry mil tax (segregated funds) provides funding for the County Forest Administration Grant.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Langlade County Board of Supervisors requests that the State legislature restore the County Forest Administration Grant Program to its previous funding level in the next State Biennial Budget

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Clerk is directed to send a copy of this resolution to Governor Walker, the Joint Finance Committee of the Wisconsin Legislature, the state legislators of Langlade County, the Wisconsin Counties Association, and WDNR Secretary Cathy Stepp.

LANGLADE COUNTY FORESTRY & RECREATION COMMITTEE:

Ronald M. Nye
Ronald M. Nye, Chairman

Donald Scupien
Donald Scupien

Samuel Hardin
Samuel Hardin

Joseph Novak III
Joseph Novak III

Duff Leaver

FISCAL NOTE: Langlade County's WCFA dues in 2017 were \$8,100.13

Adopted by the County Board of Langlade County, this 21st day of February, 2017.

Judy Nagel
Judy Nagel, County Clerk