



DOOR COUNTY

Resolution No. 2021-44

Supporting Reauthorization of the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program

TO THE DOOR COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

ROLL CALL Board Members	Aye	Nay	Exc.
AUSTAD			✓
BULTMAN	✓		
CHOMEAU	✓		
COUNARD	✓		
D. ENGLEBERT	✓		
R. ENGLEBERT	✓		
ENIGL	✓		
FISHER	✓		
GAUGER	✓		
GUNNLAUGSSON	✓		
HEIM PETER	✓		
KOHOUT	✓		
LIENAU	✓		
LUNDAHL	✓		
NORTON	✓		
ROBILLARD	✓		
RUSNAK	✓		
THAYSE	✓		
VIRLEE	✓		
VLIES WOTACHEK	✓		
VOGEL	✓		

BOARD ACTION

Vote Required: Majority Vote of a Quorum.

Motion to Approve Adopted Defeated

1st Bultman Defeated

2nd Rusnak

No: 0 Yes: 20 Exc: 1

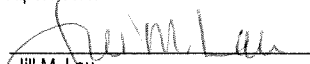
Reviewed by: _____, Corp. Counsel

Reviewed by: _____, Administrator

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no fiscal impact associated with the adoption of this resolution. STW

Certification:

I, Jill M. Lau, Clerk of Door County, hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution that was adopted on the 25th day of May, 2021 by the Door County Board of Supervisors.


Jill M. Lau
County Clerk, Door County

1 **WHEREAS**, Door County has benefited in many ways over the past 30 years through
2 grants from the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program (the Program), including over \$1 million
3 in grants to help fund County park and marina improvements, grants to local governmental units
4 throughout the County for a variety of projects, funds for the creation and expansion of state
5 natural areas in the County and improvements at state parks, and grants to non-profit groups
6 including the Door County Land Trust, The Ridges Sanctuary, Crossroads at Big Creek and The
7 Nature Conservancy for land conservation projects that help protect our groundwater, lakes and
8 streams, protect native flora and fauna, provide hiking, fishing and hunting access for residents
9 and visitors and help to preserve the unique beauty and character of the County; and

10
11 **WHEREAS**, the total amount of the grants received by local governments and other entities
12 in Door County under the Program from its inception more than 30 years ago is estimated to be
13 \$30,829,500 by Gathering Waters: Wisconsin's Alliance for Land Trusts based on data from the
14 Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR). This number does not include additional
15 money from the Program used improvements to state parks and other DNR properties in the
16 County; and

17
18 **WHEREAS**, in most cases the grants from the Program have enabled grant recipients to
19 receive matching grants from various federal programs and private philanthropy, often more than
20 doubling the impact of the Program; and

21
22 **WHEREAS**, the recreational projects and lands conserved through the Program have
23 resulted in substantial economic benefits throughout the County's tourist economy by attracting,
24 and enhancing the experiences of, the many visitors to the County; and

25
26 **WHEREAS**, the Program named for Republican Governor Warren Knowles and Democrat
27 Governor Gaylord Nelson has received strong bipartisan support since its inception; and


28
29 **WHEREAS**, the COVID-19 pandemic has increased use of the public and non-profit
30 conservation lands in the County substantially and reinforced appreciation of the value of these
31 lands dramatically; and

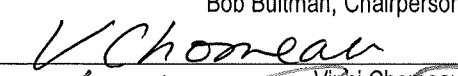
32
33 **WHEREAS**, Governor Evers has included in his executive budget (introduced as SB111) a
34 10-year reauthorization of the Program funded at \$70 million per year to be allocated among
35 various components of the Program.


36
37 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Door County Board of Supervisors does
38 hereby strongly support reauthorization of the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program for another
39 decade in the 2021-23 state budget presently under consideration for adoption.

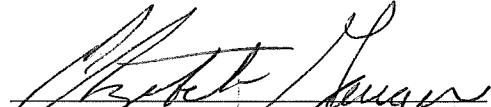
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41 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Door County Clerk send a copy of this Resolution to
42 Governor Tony Evers, Senator Andre Jacques, Representative Joel Kitchens and the Wisconsin
43 Counties Association.

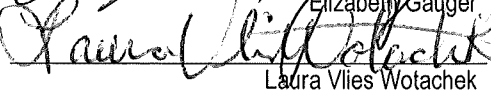
SUBMITTED BY: LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE


Bob Bultman, Chairperson


Vinhi Chomeau


Kara Counard


Elizabeth Gauger


Laura Vlies Wotachek