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2014 RES-460

AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF LAND FOR DONALD COUNTY PARK - NAMENWIRTH

Donald County Park is approximately 700 acres located in southwestern Dane County in the Town of Springdale. The Park was established in 1993 through the donation of 105 acres from Delma Donald Woodburn and is a popular destination for equestrian use, trout fishing, hunting, hiking and picnicking. The rural character of Donald Park is further enhanced by conservation and agricultural easements on nearly 120 acres which restricts growth on surrounding lands. The Park is greatly supported by an active volunteer organization, the Friends of Donald Park, that have donated time and money to the restoration and betterment of the Park. The Park enjoys a steady stream of users, everything from the general public to school groups that visit on a regular basis.

A priority of the 2005 master plan for Donald Park as well as the *Dane County Parks & Open Space Plan* is protection of lands southwest of Donald Park. As such, the Department of Land & Water Resources recommends acquiring the approximately 18-acre Barbara Namenwirth property to further enhance the regional significance of Donald Park. Connected to Park property, this parcel has been beautifully restored by the owners to prairie with small stands of pine. Purchase of the Namenwirth parcel will prevent further development along the western edge of the Park, create vistas and observation points to the southwest not currently available to the public, expand trail network opportunities, and provide public road frontage to the southwest section of Donald Park where none currently exists.

The purchase price for the Namenwirth property is based on the appraised value of \$243,000. The debt issued to support the acquisition will have a term of 20 years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Dane County Board of Supervisors and the Dane County Executive hereby authorize the purchase of the approximately 18-acre Barbara Namenwirth property for \$243,000 according to Wisc. Stats. 27.05(3), and that the land be managed under the jurisdiction of the Dane County Park Commission.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Dane County Real Estate & Acquisition Director, Real Estate Coordinator, and Acquisition and Planning Specialist are authorized to administer the closing and the transfer of the above mentioned rights to Dane County, and the Controller is authorized to issue checks necessary to effectuate the transaction.