

1 **2016 RES-355**

2 **AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF LAND IN THE DOOR CREEK WILDLIFE AREA**

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4 The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WI DNR) is currently offering land for
5 sale as required under Wisconsin Act 20. Land will be sold to three groups in order of
6 priority:

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8 1. Sale to a unit of government or Wisconsin sovereign tribal nation.
9 2. Private sale for trespass or boundary settlement or with adjacent property owner
10 under special circumstances.
11 3. Public sale to the general public.

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13 Several parcels owned by WDNR in the Towns of Dunn and Pleasant Springs have
14 been offered only to Dane County. The properties total approximately 160 acres and
15 include frontage on the northern edge of Lake Kegonsa as well as Door Creek. The
16 properties are within the County's Door Creek Wildlife Area boundary and are adjacent
17 to other County-owned lands.

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19 Protection of these lands is crucial to preserving this important wetland resource for
20 habitat and wildlife diversity, water quality, flood control, and fisheries including northern
21 pike spawning. Acquiring these parcels is also key to consolidating contiguous lands for
22 public recreation, wildlife & landscape management and restoration purposes. An
23 important goal of this purchase is to secure a key land segment for the Lower Yahara
24 River Trail, linking the Village of McFarland to Lake Kegonsa State Park.

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26 The DNR is offering the 160 acres to Dane County for \$232,200. The properties will
27 carry a deed restriction requiring them to be open to hunting, fishing, trapping, hiking and
28 skiing. Funds for the purchase are available in the Conservation Fund. The debt issued
29 to support this expenditure will have a term of 20 years.

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31 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Dane County Board of Supervisors and
32 the Dane County Executive hereby authorize the purchase of approximately 160 acres
33 from the WI DNR for \$232,200 according to Wis. Stats Chapter 27.05(3); and

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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County's purchase is conditioned upon the
36 release of any federal grant encumbrance which would restrict siting the Lower Yahara
37 River Trail through selected parts of the property; and

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39 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Dane County Land & Water Resources Director,
40 Real Estate Coordinator, or Acquisition and Planning Specialist are authorized to
41 administer the closing and the transfer of the above-mentioned property to Dane County
42 and the Controller is authorized to issue checks necessary to effectuate the transaction.