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2 2018 RES-623  
3 DANE COUNTY CONSERVATION FUND GRANT AWARD TO  
4 THE PRAIRIE ENTHUSIASTS (WILKEN)

5 The Prairie Enthusiasts (TPE) have applied to the Dane County Conservation Fund Grant  
6 Program for financial assistance to purchase approximately 4.3 acres in the Town of Vermont  
7 from the Wilken Trust for the Blue Mounds Natural Resource Area. The 2018-2023 Parks and  
8 Open Space Plan acknowledges TPE's efforts to preserve lands in this area.

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10 Since 2005, TPE has acquired approximately 209 fee and easement acres north of Brigham  
11 County Park and adjacent to Blue Mounds Wildlife Area. These lands make up TPE's Pleasure  
12 Valley Conservancy which contains a variety of landscapes, including wooded and open  
13 valley bottoms, streams, springs, wetlands, and areas of rugged dolomite-capped hills underlain  
14 by sandstone with sandstone outcrops that provide scenic views of nearby Blue Mounds. TPE  
15 has planted old agricultural fields to a mix of prairie grasses and forbs.

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17 This parcel is adjacent to other lands owned by TPE. TPE desires to acquire the parcel in order to  
18 protect and maintain the site, including a restored prairie, and to provide opportunities for the  
19 public to study and research the land and enjoy nature based outdoor recreation.

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21 The project costs for this acquisition are \$30,728.00. The Dane County Park Commission  
22 recommends up to \$20,364.00 in County matching funds. TPE has secured a Knowles Nelson  
23 Stewardship Grant for the remainder of project costs.

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25 The term of the debt issued to support this expenditure will be 20 years.

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27 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that a grant of \$20,364.00 to TPE is approved by the  
28 Dane County Board and the Dane County Executive and that the County will pay up to the grant  
29 amount based on actual project expenses.

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31 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Dane County Clerk and Dane County Executive are  
32 authorized to execute documents necessary to effectuate the grant award, which may include  
33 grant agreements, management agreements, and the acceptance of an easement that will vest in  
34 Dane County according to Wisc. Stats. 27.05(3), and that the land interests be managed under  
35 the jurisdiction of the Dane County Park Commission.

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37 **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that the Dane County Land & Water Resources Director or Real  
38 Estate Coordinator are authorized to approve closing and reimbursement documentation for grant  
39 projects and the transfer of an easement to Dane County and the Controller is authorized to issue  
40 checks necessary to effectuate the transactions authorized through the grant award.

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