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2 **2014 RES-353**  
3 **AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF LAND IN THE FISH LAKE NATURAL RESOURCE**  
4 **AREA – WELSCH/SCHWARTZ**

5 The Department of Land & Water Resources has negotiated the purchase of a fee  
6 interest in an approximate 77.5-acre parcel of land located in the Town of Roxbury owned by  
7 Allene Welsch, and Howard and Sheri Schwartz. The property is adjacent to Lussier County  
8 Park within the Fish Lake Natural Resource Area. It contains approximately 4,100 ft. of natural  
9 shoreline on south end of Crystal Lake. Crystal Lake is a 575-acre seepage lake that offers a  
10 variety of recreational opportunities including motorized boating, shore fishing, ice fishing, water  
11 skiing and swimming.

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13 An extraordinary benefit of the project is that it will allow for the development of a new  
14 boat launch on Crystal Lake, which was one of the key recommendations of the recently  
15 adopted Lussier County Park and Fish Lake Natural Resource Area Master Plan. The master  
16 plan proposes a 34 trailer, 20 car parking lot with restrooms, fish cleaning facility and accessible  
17 fishing pier for the site. Acquisition of the property will also create a large contiguous swath of  
18 protected lands between Fish Lake and Crystal Lake that will support a variety of wildlife and  
19 recreational opportunities. The property offers exceptional scenic views of Crystal Lake and the  
20 surrounding rural landscape.

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22 The purchase, at the appraised value of \$873,176, will be made using funds in the Dane  
23 County Conservation Fund. Dane County has secured a grant from the DNR's Knowles-Nelson  
24 Stewardship Program for reimbursement of a portion of the acquisition cost. The DNR grant  
25 requires the property to be open to the public for hunting, trapping, fishing, hiking, and cross-  
26 country skiing. Dane County will develop and manage the property as a County Wildlife Area  
27 within the Fish Lake Natural Resource Area.

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29 The debt issued to support the acquisition will have a term of 20 years.

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31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Dane County Board of Supervisors  
32 and the Dane County Executive hereby authorize the purchase of the Welsch and Schwartz  
33 property for \$873,176 and according to Wisc. Stats. 27.05(3), and that the land be managed  
34 under the jurisdiction of the Dane County Park Commission.

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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Dane County Clerk and Dane County Executive  
37 are authorized to execute documents, including the grant contract, necessary to accept the  
38 grant funds.

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

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