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2014 RES-415
2014 DANE COUNTY CONSERVATION FUND GRANT AWARD TO
THE PRAIRIE ENTHUSIASTS

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The Prairie Enthusiasts have applied to the Dane County Conservation Fund Grant Program for financial assistance to purchase approximately 98 acres in the Town of Primrose. The property is high quality native grassland that is located within the Southwest Grasslands and Stream Conservation Area as identified in the Dane County Parks & Open Space Plan. Preservation of this property will protect critical grassland bird habitat and several endangered/threatened plant and animal species. Furthermore, this acquisition will conserve in perpetuity a cold water tributary stream of the Primrose Branch, which is a DNR designated trout stream. The property will be open to the public year-round for hiking, hunting, trapping, fishing, cross country skiing, bird watching, and nature appreciation.

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The project costs for the acquisition total \$467,360. The Conservation Fund Grant Advisory Committee recommends up to \$247,498 in County matching funds. The remainder of the acquisition costs will be provided by a grant from the DNR Stewardship Grant Program that has been secured by the Prairie Enthusiasts.

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that a grant of \$247,498 to the Prairie Enthusiasts is approved by the Dane County Board and the Dane County Executive and that the County will pay up to the grant amount based on actual project expenses.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Dane County Clerk and Dane County Executive are authorized to execute documents necessary to effectuate the grant award, which may include grant agreements, management agreements, and the acceptance of an easement that will vest in Dane County 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 Real Estate & Acquisition Director, Real Estate Coordinator, and Acquisition and Planning Specialist are authorized to approve closing and reimbursement documentation for grant projects and the transfer of an easement to Dane County and the Controller is authorized to issue checks necessary to effectuate the transactions authorized through the grant award.