

**DANE COUNTY CONSERVATION FUND GRANT AWARD TO
TOWN OF DUNKIRK AND GROUNDSWELL CONSERVANCY**

The Town of Dunkirk and Groundswell Conservancy have applied to the Dane County Conservation Fund Grant Program for financial assistance for the acquisition of a conservation easement on 100 acres of agricultural land in the Badfish Creek Natural Resource Area from the Steven L. and Barbara J. Felio Revocable Trust as part of the Town's Rural Preservation Program. This farm was selected by the Town because of its prime soils and proximity to the City of Stoughton and will be the second farm to participate in the program.

The conservation easement will preserve farmland and also protect water quality. The southern 40 acre parcel is located within the floodplain and be taken out of row crops and limited to pasture or hay.

The estimated project costs for the acquisition are \$491,000. The Town of Dunkirk will fund 25% of the project costs and has secured a Natural Resources Conservation Services, Regional Conservation Partnership Program grant for approximately 50% of the costs. The Dane County Park Commission recommends granting the remaining 25% of costs, up to \$129,000 in County matching funds.

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that a grant of up to \$129,000 to the Town of Dunkirk and Groundswell Conservancy 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 interests be managed under the jurisdiction of the Dane County Park Commission.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Dane County Land & Water Resources Director and Real Estate Coordinator, 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.