

2025 RES – 164
**AUTHORIZING A PURCHASE OF CONTINUOUS COVER
PROGRAM CONSERVATION EASEMENT - BINKLEY**

The Dane County Continuous Cover Program (CCP) was established in in 2019 to financially assist landowners converting traditional row-cropped fields to continuous vegetative cover. Continuous vegetation can increase water filtration, reduce soil erosion, improve water quality, build soil health, increase wildlife habitat, sequester carbon and diversify production practices. Starting in 2024, landowners could choose between a 15-year CCP cost-share agreement or a permanent conservation easement option that will ensure continuous cover in perpetuity. Landowners already enrolled in CCP are able to convert their current contracts into a permanent conservation easement.

John Binkley owns land off of Bong Road and River Road in the Town of Westport. He enrolled 13 acres of land into a 15-year CCP cost-share agreement in 2020 and has established cover on the land. Mr. Binkley wishes to convert the current CCP agreement into a permanent conservation easement and enroll an additional 4.3 acres into CCP under the new easement. The purchase price of this easement is \$48,600.00.

Funds for the purchase are available in the LWLEGACY 57272 Dane County CRP fund. The debt issued to support this expenditure will have a term of 20 years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dane County Board of Supervisors and the Dane County Executive hereby authorize the purchase of a Conservation Easement from John Binkley for \$48,600.00 plus miscellaneous costs and that the land rights be managed under the jurisdiction of the Dane County Land & Water Resources Department;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Dane County Executive and Dane County Clerk are hereby authorized to execute the described easement and related documents on behalf of Dane County; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Dane County Land & Water Resources Department Director and the Real Estate Coordinator are authorized to administer the closing and the transfer of the above-mentioned easement interests to Dane County, and the Controller is authorized to issue checks necessary to effectuate the transaction.