RESOLUTION # 5-8-22
TO: HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE LA CROSSE COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

RE: APPROVAL OF REQUEST FOR MATCHING FUNDING OF $10,000 FOR HARVESTING OF
AQUATIC VEGETATION IN THE LAKE ONALASKA BOAT TRAVEL CORRIDOR

WHEREAS, Since 2016 the Lake Onalaska Protection and Rehabilitation District [Lake District] has been
working with local groups and partner agencies to identify ways to improve access to Lake Onalaska and the
Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge; and

WHEREAS, increased flowage into the Mississippi River and Lake Onalaska have increased sediment and
nutrients entering into the water systems causing an increase of filamentous algae, duck weed and rooted
aquatic vegetation like wild rice. Although vegetation is a source of food for wildlife it also greatly impedes
boat travel and traps more sediment reducing overall water depth; and

WHEREAS, harvesting aquatic vegetation in the boat travel corridor will preserve the habitat for fish and
wildlife while allowing boaters to travel on designated corridors to access Lake Onalaska and the Mississippi
River; and

WHEREAS, the opening and maintenance of the travel corridors will improve safe boat travel; protect
watercraft from undue damage; and reduce the need to rescue stranded boaters; and

WHEREAS, access to and the use of the Lake Onalaska and the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and
Fish Refuge benefits not only La Crosse County but the entire region by providing access to outdoor recreation
and by contributing to the local economy specifically in the area of outdoor recreational equipment,
particularly marine and fishing equipment; and

WHEREAS, the Lake District is requesting a contribution of $10,000 for the purpose of harvesting aquatic
vegetation in the Lake Onalaska boat travel corridor. This amount would be a matching fund to the amount
in the Lake District’s harvest account as well as to private donations and fund raising efforts;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the La Crosse County Board hereby approves the request by the Lake
Onalaska Protection and Rehabilitation District for matching funding in the amount of $10,000 dollars for
harvesting aquatic vegetation in the boat travel corridors of Lake Onalaska.

FISCAL NOTE: $100,000 of funding for Lake District projects was provided in the 2022 Budget in line item
100.205.2130 Account 60200.01

Date: 5/11/22

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHAIR
Reviewed
Recommended
20

Date: 5-11-22

RECORDING CLERK
Not
Recommended

Requested By: County Administrator
Date Requested: April 21, 2022
Drafted By: Corporation Counsel

Adopted by the La Crosse County Board this 19th Day of May, 2022

STATE OF WISCONSIN
COUNTY OF LA CROSSE
I, Ginny Dankmeyer, County Clerk of La Crosse County do hereby certify that
this document is a true and correct copy of the original resolution required by
law to be in my custody and which the County Board of Supervisors of La
Crosse County adopted at a meeting held on the 19th day of May 2022.

Ginny Dankmeyer, La Crosse County Clerk