RESOLUTION # 16-8/23

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 for harvesting aquatic vegetation in the boat travel corridors of Lake Onalaska.

FISCAL NOTE: Funding for Lake District projects was provided in the 2023 Budget in line item 100.205.2130 Account 60200.01.

Date: 8-9-23

COMMITTEE CHAIR

Reviewed Only Recommended Not Recommended
Co. Admin. 
Fin. Director 
Corp. Counsel 
Board Chair 

Adopted by the La Crosse County Board this 17th day of August 2023

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 17th day of August 2023.

Ginny Dankmeyer, La Crosse County Clerk