

Agenda Item Report



Winnebago County
The Wave of the Future

DATE: September 7, 2022

FROM: Chad Casper, Director of LWCD

RE: Request authorization to accept grant funds in the amount of \$10,000.00 from the Fox Wolf Watershed Alliance to enroll 100 acres of cropland into soil health conservation systems with farmers and approve attached budget transfer.

Background:

The Fund for Lake Michigan and National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grant provides funds to enroll 100 acres of cropland into soil health conservation systems with producers by implementing cover crops and no-till. This would result in a reduction of phosphorus and sediment runoff entering the Winnebago System. The Winnebago County LWCD and Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance would collaborate on these efforts. Winnebago County would be reimbursed by Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance (FWWA) for all contractual costs associated with the farmer incentives for installing soil health conservation systems along with the Winnebago County LWCD being offered \$10/acre for 2 years for every acre enrolled in the NFWF Grant.

Policy Discussion:

The expenditure of \$9,000 from the Fund for Lake Michigan and National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grant funds will be used to cost-share \$90/acre for the installation cover crops and no-till on 100 acres. The \$10,000 of revenue would reimburse Winnebago County LWCD for all contractual costs with the farmer incentives along with Winnebago County LWCD being offered \$10/acre for 2 years for every acre enrolled in the NFWF Grant.

This budget transfer was discussed with the Finance Department and provides budget revenue with no additional levy.

Requested Action:

Motion to approve the attached resolution requesting authorization to accept grant funds in the amount of \$10,000.00 from the Fox Wolf Watershed Alliance to enroll 100 acres of cropland into soil health conservation systems with farmers and approve attached budget transfer.

Committee Action:

At the Land Conservation Committee Meeting on August 4, 2022, moved by Nelson, second by Zellmer, passed 6-0.

At the Personnel & Finance Committee on September 1, 2022, moved by Ellenberger, second by Nussbaum, passed 5-0.

Attachments:

- 2022 Budget Transfer Document
- Resolution: Request authorization to accept grant funds in the amount of \$10,000.00 from the Fox Wolf Watershed Alliance to enroll 100 acres of cropland into soil health conservation systems with farmers and approve attached budget transfer.