

2 **RESOLUTION: Direct That Funding Used to Operate the Winnebago County Navigational**
3 **Aids Program be Derived from Revenues Obtained from the Winnebago**
4 **County Boat Trailer Parking Fee Program**

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7 **TO THE WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

8 **WHEREAS**, the Winnebago County Parks Department is responsible for Winnebago County's Navigation
9 Aids Program involving the installation, removal, and maintenance of over one hundred and twenty-three (123)
10 lighted and unlighted buoys within the Winnebago County lakes system.; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the purpose of the Navigational Aids Program is to assist boaters in reaching their destination;
12 and

13 **WHEREAS**, since the inception of the Navigational Aids Program in 1988, costs associated with operating
14 the program have been derived through the tax levy; and

15 **WHEREAS**, Winnebago County has arrived at a point in the program where a sizeable portion of the buoy
16 inventory is beginning to need refurbishing and upgrades including replacement of stainless steel rigging, repair,
17 painting, remarking the buoy shells, and the re-outfitting of analog bulb lanterns with digital LED fixtures; and

18 **WHEREAS**, Winnebago County's buoy inventory is in large part comprised of both nun and can buoys each
19 costing up to \$5,000 to replace; and

20 **WHEREAS**, it has been determined that the most cost-effective manner in which to address the need for
21 maintaining the buoy inventory would be to implement a phased approach whereby up to ten buoys per year are
22 selected for renovation at an average cost of \$2,000 per unit; and

23 **WHEREAS**, Winnebago County has in place a Boat Trailer Parking Fee Permit Program in which revenues
24 are collected from individuals who access the Winnebago County lakes system using any one of the County's seven
25 boat landing facilities; and

26 **WHEREAS**, funds collected through the Boat Trailer Parking Fee Permit Program are regularly applied
27 towards the maintenance and improvements performed at Winnebago County's boat landing sites; and

28 **WHEREAS**, a majority of Winnebago County' buoy inventory is dedicated towards providing boaters with a
29 means for safe access into and out of boat landings located throughout the Winnebago lakes system; and

30 **WHEREAS**, Wisconsin NR1.91(11) BOAT LAUNCHING FEES allows for launch fees to be charged for the
31 purpose of operating and maintaining facilities that directly support boating activities and that also rely on the use of
32 buoys to aid in accessing such sites; and

33 **WHEREAS**, your Park and Recreation Committee has determined that because Winnebago County's
34 Navigation Aids Program in large part exists for the purpose of enabling boaters to safely access facilities that
35 directly support boating activities, and Wisconsin NR 1.91(11) does all for buoys to be included as an allowable
36 expense for which boat launch fees can be applied towards, it would be appropriate for the funding required to
37 operate Winnebago County's Navigation Aids Program to be derived from revenues collected from the County's Boat
38 Trailer Parking Fee Permit Program.

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40 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it hereby
41 authorizes that beginning January 1, 2018, the Navigation Aids Program shall be funded through revenues collected
42 through Winnebago County's Boat Trailer Parking Fee Permit Program instead of being supported by the tax levy.

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Respectfully submitted by:

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Committee Vote: _____

Vote Required for Passage: **Majority of Those Present**

Approved by the Winnebago County Executive this _____ day of _____, 2017.

Mark L Harris
Winnebago County Executive