

Agenda Item Report



Winnebago County
The Wave of the Future

DATE: 7/17/23

FROM: Chad Casper, Director of Land & Water Conservation

RE: Resolution: Request Authority to Apply for and Accept a Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) Producer-Led Watershed Protection Grant

General Description:

The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) provides funding to producer-led groups that focus on nonpoint source pollution abatement activities through the Producer-Led Watershed Protection Grant Program.

Action Requested:

To approve the Resolution: Request Authority to Apply for and Accept a Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) Producer-Led Watershed Protection Grant

Procedural Steps:

Committee of Jurisdiction: Land Conservation	Meeting date: 8/3/23
Action taken: Approved	Vote: 7-0

Personnel and Finance Committee	Meeting date: 9/7/23
Action taken: Approved	Vote: 4-0

County Board	Meeting date: 9/19/23
--------------	-----------------------

Background:

Grants provide support to groups to deliver cost share programs, on-farm demonstration and research projects, and education and outreach efforts on conservation systems and innovative practices that improve water quality to farmers and other community members within their local watersheds.

Policy Discussion:

The grant proposal is to apply for \$5,000 to provide funding for the creation of a producer-led group along with holding field days and a winter educational workshop that will focus on non-point source pollution. The program goal is to improve Wisconsin's soil and water quality by supporting and advancing producer-led solutions that increase on-the-ground practices and farmer participation in local watershed efforts. To be eligible for applying for the Producer-Led Watershed Protection Grant, there must be a collaborator and fiscal agent identified, which would be the Land & Water Conservation Department. If grant funds are awarded, the revenue and expense from this grant would be included in the 2024 County Budget.

Attachments:

Resolution: Request Authority to Apply for and Accept a Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) Producer-Led Watershed Protection Grant