

RESOLUTION

ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Public Works Committee
Initiated by

Public Works Committee
& Parks Advisory Committee
Submitted by



Lori Williams, Parks Director
Drafted by

March 20, 2018
Date Drafted

AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF CAROL MILLER LAND DONATION

1 **WHEREAS**, Carol Miller has expressed a desire to make a donation of her land to Rock County. The
2 legal description of this property is attached. Said property is located in Fulton Township at the
3 confluence of the Yahara and Rock Rivers; and
4

5 **WHEREAS**, the Department of Public Works Parks Division toured Ms. Miller's property and found it
6 to provide an opportunity for Rock County to expand its Parks land holdings by approximately fifty-four
7 (54) acres; and
8

9 **WHEREAS**, said property is subject to a perpetual easement to the Wisconsin River Company for the
10 right to erect and maintain a line of towers and wires for the transmission of electrical current; and
11

12 **WHEREAS**, said property is also subject to a perpetual easement of approximately thirteen (13) acres to
13 the United States of America, the purpose of which is to restore, protect, manage, maintain and enhance
14 the functional values of wetlands and other lands and for the conservation of natural values including
15 fish and wildlife and their habitat, water quality improvement, flood water retention, groundwater
16 discharge, open space, aesthetic values and environmental education. This easement does allow for
17 fishing and other recreational uses that are consistent with the long-term protection and enhancement of
18 the wetland and other natural values of the easement area.
19

20 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled
21 this 12th day of April, 2018 does hereby authorize the acceptance of the land
22 donation by Carol Miller, as set forth in the attached legal description, and;
23

24 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the County Board Chair and the County Clerk be authorized to
25 execute legal documents related to the land donation on behalf of the County, and;
26

27 ~~**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the property received by Rock County through this land donation~~
28 ~~will remain park and wildlife area, open to the public for passive recreation. The area on the east side of~~
29 ~~Yahara will remain in a natural state with potential environmental restoration projects to enhance~~
30 ~~functionality of the property. Improvements such as a gravel roadway, small parking area and hiking~~
31 ~~trails will be permissible and;~~
32

33 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a sign shall be erected honoring the Miller family for this
34 donation.

18-4A-517

Respectfully submitted,

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

/s/ Betty Jo Bussie
Betty Jo Bussie, Chair

Absent
Brent Fox, Vice-Chair

Absent
Eva M. Arnold


Rick Richard

Dissent
Brenton Driscoll

/s/ J. Russell Podzilni
J. Russell Podzilni

PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

/s/ Tom Presny
Tom Presny

/s/ Floyd Finney
Floyd Finney

/s/ Dean Paynter
Dean Paynter

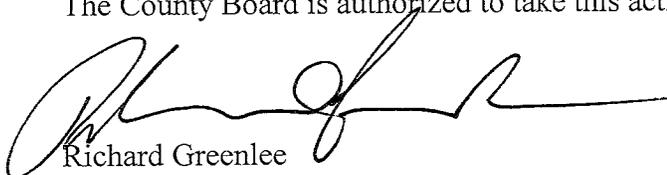
FISCAL NOTE:

Costs associated with this donation include the upfront costs of title insurance and the survey. Costs also include the ongoing maintenance and improvement of the property.


Sherry Oja
Finance Director

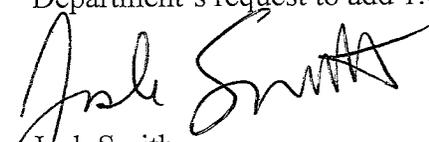
LEGAL NOTE:

The County Board is authorized to take this action pursuant to section 59.52(6), Wis. Stats.


Richard Greenlee
Corporation Counsel

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

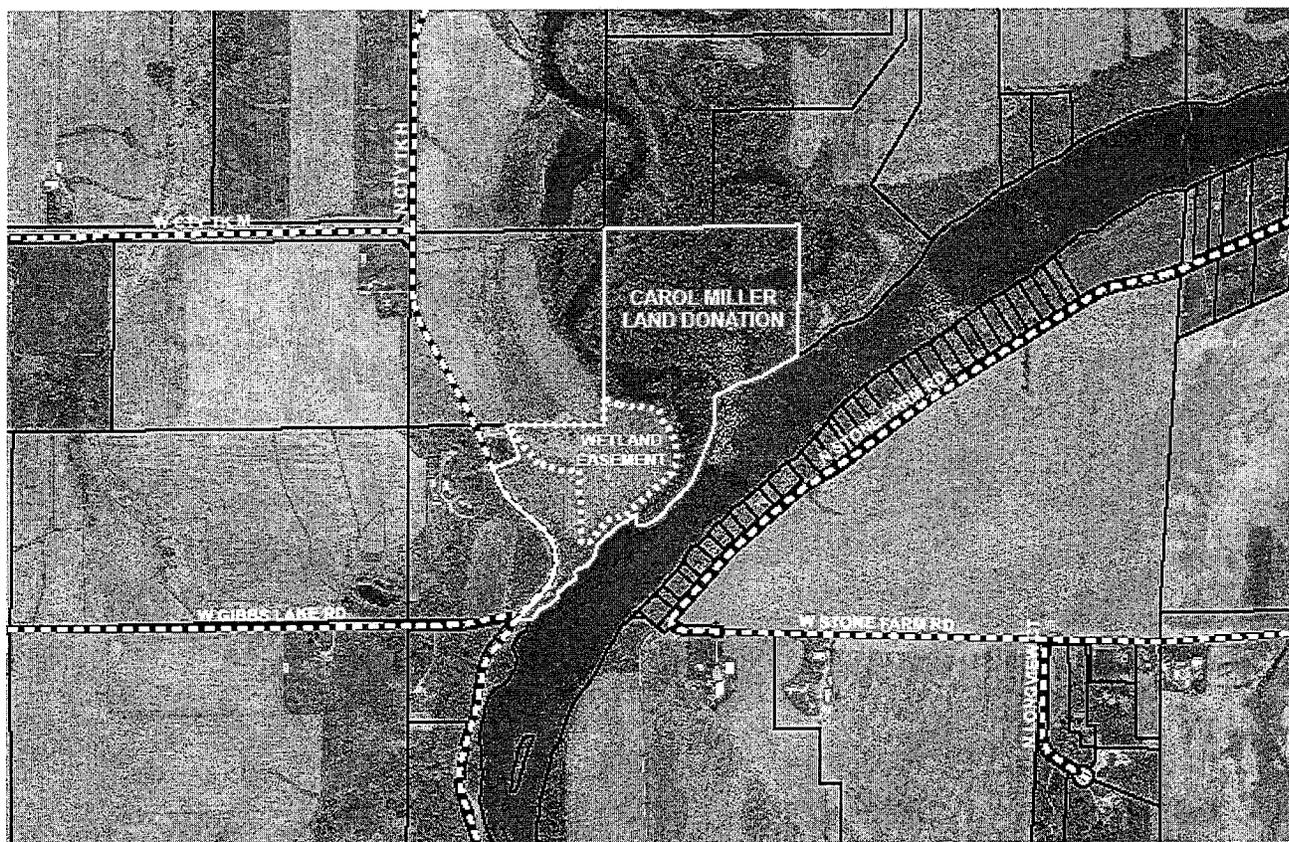
Increasing County park land is consistent with Goal 12.16 (“Acquire additional park space to address gaps in level of service”) of Rock County’s Parks, Outdoor Recreation and Open Space (POROS) plan, and land donations are a cost-effective way to acquire and preserve natural spaces. I should note that in the 2018 budget I did not recommend the Public Works Department’s request to add 1.0 FTE staff to help with maintaining the growing park system.


Josh Smith
County Administrator

- EXECUTIVE SUMMARY -
**AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF
 CAROL MILLER LAND DONATION**

Rock County Parks was contacted by Carol Miller regarding her desire to donate land to the County.

The parcel is approximately 54 acres of land, parcel number 6-6-303, comprised of FRL LOT 3 & 4 E OF HWY (EXC VOL 442 P 492) (EXC 132-13) - plat. The parcel is adjacent to the Yahara River where it convenes with the Rock River. Part of the Donation is in the Wetland Reserve Program as an easement and remains with the land in perpetuity.



Carol Miller Land Donation
 Yahara & Rock River Confluence

Legend

-  911 Roads
-  Tax Parcels

Airphoto: Spring 2016
 1 Inch = 800 Feet



Rock County Geographic Information System (GIS)
 Rock County Planning, Development and Economic Agency

Rock County Parks will be responsible for all costs associated with the land donation: the title insurance policy and a land boundary survey and park signage.

The Public Works Committee voted unanimously in favor of pursuing the acceptance of this land donation at their March 14, 2017 meeting.

Subsequent discussions with the property owner donating the land are supportive of this undated resolution.