## RESOLUTION ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

LAND CONSERVATION	
COMMITTEE	
INITIATED BY	
LAND CONSERVATION	
COMMITTEE	

SUBMITTED BY

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WADE THOMPSON DRAFTED BY

MARCH 12, 2012 DATE DRAFTED

# AUTHORIZING OPTION TO PURCHASE AGREEMENTS ON THE CARLSON, PHELPS, AND ANDERSON PROPERTIES BY THE ROCK COUNTY PURCHASE OF AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION EASEMENTS (PACE) PROGRAM

- WHEREAS, the Rock County Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easements (PACE) Program acquires
   agricultural conservation easements ("Easements") on eligible lands throughout unincorporated Rock County;
   and,
- WHEREAS, the Rock County Board of Supervisors, through Resolution 12-1A-548 (January 12, 2012),
   authorized the Rock County PACE Program to begin the Easement acquisition process on the following properties;
  - 1. Carlson Property: Rock County Tax Parcel Numbers 6-5-304 and 6-5-325, Sections 32 and 33, Town of Clinton;
  - 2. Phelps Property: Rock County Tax Parcel Numbers 6-20-100, 6-20-101.1, and 6-20-104A, Sections 12 and 13, Town of Union;
  - 3. Anderson Property: Rock County Tax Parcel Number 6-11-120, Section 17, Town of Lima; and,
- WHEREAS, to move towards completion of the Easement acquisition process, the Land Conservation
  Department ("LCD") will submit Easement acquisition funding applications for the aforementioned properties to
  the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service ("NRCS"); and,
- WHEREAS, the NRCS requires, as a component of its application process, a signed agreement ("Option") between Rock County and the owners of the aforementioned properties; and,
- WHEREAS, the Option will identify the purchase price of the Easement, and Rock County and the property owner's interest in completing the Easement acquisition process; and,
- WHEREAS, the Option is subject to all terms and conditions of the Rock County Conveyance Agreement and Escrow Instructions and contingent upon Easement acquisition funding from the NRCS; and,
- WHEREAS, after execution of the Option, the LCD will submit Easement acquisition funding applications to the NRCS for each property, and if funding is awarded, Rock County will acquire Easements on the properties.

AUTHORIZING OPTION TO PURCHASE AGREEMENTS ON THE CARLSON, PHELPS, AND ANDERSON PROPERTIES BY THE ROCK COUNTY PURCHASE OF AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION EASEMENTS (PACE) PROGRAM

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Respectfully submitted:

LAND COMSERVATION COMM Richard Bostwick, Chai rus Wiedenfeld iedenfeld, Vice Chair David Innis

Jim Quade, USDA-FSA Representative

Absent Alan Sweeney

Absent

Fred Yoss

## **FISCAL NOTE:**

This resolution authorizes the Land Conservation Department to execute Option to Purchase agreements on the identified properties. Purchase of the easements is contingent on USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Services funding. This resolution has no fiscal impact on Rock County operations in and by itself.

Sherry Oja Finance Director \*Amendment to Fiscal Note: Purchase of the easements is also contingent upon appropriation of funding by the County Board in a future resolution.

### LEGAL NOTE:

County Board is authorized to take this action pursuant to Sections 59.01, 59.51

/effrey of Kuglitsch Corporation Counsel

# ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Recommended.

Craig Knutson

County Administrator

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The Rock County Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easements (PACE) Program acquires agricultural conservation easements ("Easements") on eligible lands throughout unincorporated Rock County. This resolution authorizes Rock County to execute an agreement ("Option") with three property owners, identifying Rock County and the property owners interest in completing the Easement acquisition process on their properties, and also identifying the purchase price of the Easements. Completion of the Easement acquisition process is subject to funding from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). The properties easement value, Rock County contribution (approximate), landowner donation (approximate), expected NRCS contribution (approximate), and easement purchase price are as follows:

## Carlson Parcel - 120 acres

- 1. Easement Value: \$198,000
  - a. County Contribution (approximate): \$33,660 (25% of Easement Purchase Price)
  - b. Landowner Donation (approximate): \$65,340 (33% of Easement Value)
  - c. Expected NRCS Contribution (approximate): \$99,000 (50% of Easement Value)
- 2. Easement Purchase Price (approximate): \$132,660 (67% of Easement Value)

### Phelps Parcel - 207 acres

- 1. Easement Value: \$372,000
  - a. County Contribution (approximate): \$63,240 (25% of Easement Purchase Price)
  - b. Landowner Donation (approximate): \$122,760 (33% of Easement Value)
  - c. Expected NRCS Contribution (approximate): \$186,000 (50% of Easement Value)
- 2. Easement Purchase Price (approximate): \$249,240 (67% of Easement Value)

#### Anderson Parcel - 83 acres

- 1. Easement Value: \$126.000
  - a. County Contribution (approximate): \$21,420 (25% of Easement Purchase Price)
  - b. Landowner Donation (approximate): \$41,580 (33% of Easement Value)
  - c. Expected NRCS Contribution (approximate): \$63,000 (50% of Easement Value)
- 2. Easement Purchase Price (approximate): \$84,420 (67% of Easement Value)