ResOLUTION # 20-OL-00

A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT AND EXTEND FUNDING OF BLUFF PRAIRIE RESTORATION PROJECTS IN BUFFALO COUNTY FROM CAPX2020 FUNDING

WHEREAS, Buffalo County has a long history of supporting land conservation efforts and has recognized the need for and value of preserving Bluff Prairie ecosystems, which are diminishing on the landscape; and,

WHEREAS, continued investment in Bluff Prairie restoration efforts have inherent conservation value in preserving the natural habitat, providing increased recreational opportunities, and an increase in public awareness and support of conservation issues; and,

WHEREAS, in November 2015, the Buffalo County Board of Supervisors and Public Service Commission authorized use of CAPX2020 funding for Bluff Prairie projects up to $15,000 each year for five (5) years for a total investment of $75,000 subject to 50% matching funds and obtaining a signed contract with the landowner(s) to allow public access on a regular basis; and,

WHEREAS, after five (5) years, $27,812 CAPX funds remain due to federal U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Partners grant matching, therefore reducing the CAPX2020 amount expended; and,

WHEREAS, in order to preserve the rare, dwindling prairie ecosystems in Buffalo County a continuation of the project is necessary; and,

WHEREAS, the Land Conservation and Ag & Extension Committee has reviewed and supports the request to use CAPX2020 funding for the projects; and,

WHEREAS, the Buffalo County Finance Committee has reviewed and supports the request for an additional $25,000 CAPX2020 funding and to extend the existing Bluff Prairie Restoration funding for an additional five (5) years, subject to 50% matching funds and obtaining a signed contract with the landowner(s) to allow public access on a regular basis; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Buffalo County Board of Supervisors hereby grants authorization to provide an additional $25,000 to the existing $27,812 and extend project funding for the next five (5) years of CAPX2020 funds for the Bluff Prairie Restoration projects in Buffalo County subject to obtaining 50% matching funds, obtaining a signed contract with the landowner(s) to allow public access on a regular basis, and the approval by the Public Service Commission.
Adopted at a duly called and noticed meeting of the Buffalo County Board of Supervisors on the 22nd day of June, 2020.

ATTEST:

Roxann Halverson, County Clerk

Dennis Bork, County Board Chairperson

Respectfully Submitted 1st day of June, 2020:
Land Conservation and Ag & Extension Committee

Bill Bruegger
Steven Nelson

Brad Schmidtkecht
John Sendelbach

Dwight Ruff
David Linse

Respectfully Submitted 18th day of June, 2020:
Finance Committee

Dennis Bork
Brad Schmidtkecht

Donald Hillert
David Danzinger

Max Weis

ANTICIPATED FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Expense (CAPX2020 Remaining Expenses + Additional $25,000) $52,815.00
50% Match (Landowner and US Fish and Wildlife Service Partners) $52,815.00
Total for next five (5) years $105,624.00 No Tax Levy

No Fiscal Impact to the County