



**LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 8, 2010
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING
AG AND EXT COMMITTEE MEETING
7:00 P.M.
ROCK COUNTY COURTHOUSE - CONFERENCE ROOM 250
JANESVILLE WI**

1. Call Meeting to Order.
2. Approval of Agenda.
3. Citizen Participation, Communications, and Announcements.
4. Approval – 2011 Wisconsin Clean Sweep Grant Contract.
5. Resolution – Resolution to Approve the Start of the Rock County Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easement (PACE) Program and Approval of the PACE Program Manual.
6. Adjourn.

RESOLUTION NO. _____

AGENDA NO. _____

**RESOLUTION
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

PACE AD HOC
COMMITTEE
INITIATED BY



CARRIE HOUSTON, WADE
THOMPSON & JEFF KUGLITSCH
DRAFTED BY

LAND CONSERVATION
COMMITTEE
SUBMITTED BY

NOVEMBER 29, 2010
DATE DRAFTED

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE START OF ROCK COUNTY PURCHASE OF
AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION EASEMENTS (PACE) PROGRAM AND
APPROVAL OF THE PACE PROGRAM MANUAL**

1 WHEREAS, the Rock County Board of Supervisors through Resolution 09-6B-311, adopted June
2 25, 2009, authorized formation of the Rock County Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easements
3 (PACE) Program Ad Hoc Committee, tasked with development of the program; and
4

5 WHEREAS, the Rock County Board of Supervisors through Resolution 09-6B-302, adopted June
6 25, 2009, tasked the Rock County Planning, Economic and Community Development Agency with
7 coordinating development of the program, with assistance provided by the Rock County Land
8 Conservation Department and University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension-Rock County; and
9

10 WHEREAS, the mission of the Rock County Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easements
11 (PACE) Program is to work in cooperation with local governments to enhance Rock County's quality of
12 life by building consensus towards a regional vision, to include preservation of agricultural land, the
13 agricultural economy, and the County's rural character, and responsible growth and development in
14 appropriate areas; and
15

16 WHEREAS, the 21 member PACE Program Ad Hoc Committee met 15 times over
17 approximately a year and a half to: 1) develop a Program vision and goal statement, 2) develop
18 Program eligibility criteria and identify agricultural parcels eligible to apply for inclusion in the
19 Program, 3) develop a Land Evaluation and Site Assessment (LESA) system to prioritize agriculture
20 parcels eligible to apply for inclusion in the Program, and 4) develop drafts of the Rock County
21 Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easements (PACE) Program Manual, identifying and outlining
22 all aspects of Program development and implementation, and recommend such to the Rock County
23 Land Conservation Committee; and
24

25 WHEREAS, oversight of the Program will be provided by the Rock County Land Conservation
26 Committee and administration of the Program will be provided by the Rock County Land Conservation
27 Department; and
28

29 WHEREAS, the Rock County Land Conservation Committee held a public meeting on
30 November 30, 2010 to obtain additional public input for consideration prior to recommending adoption of
31 the Rock County Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easements (PACE) Program Manual; and
32

33 WHEREAS, the PACE Ad Hoc Committee and the Land Conservation Committee recommend
34 approval of this Program and the PACE Program Manual.
35

36 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Rock County Board of Supervisors in session
37 this _____ day of _____, 20____, that they officially approve the Purchase of Agricultural
38 Conservation Easements (PACE) Program and adopt the document entitled Rock County Purchase of
39 Agricultural Conservation Easements (PACE) Program Manual.
40

41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Rock County Purchase of Agricultural Conservation
42 Easements (PACE) Program shall be administered by the Rock County Land Conservation Department
43 and implemented in accordance with the Rock County Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easements
44 (PACE) Program Manual.

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PURCHASE OF AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION EASEMENTS
(PACE) PROGRAM AND APPROVAL OF THE PACE PROGRAM MANUAL
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45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that future modifications to the Rock County Purchase of
46 Agricultural Conservation Easements (PACE) Program Manual, as approved by the Rock County Land
47 Conservation Committee and in accordance with the procedure outlined in the Manual, shall take effect
48 without requiring further action by the Rock County Board of Supervisors, except for any modifications
49 to either Section IV -Program Development, (II. Eligibility or III. Priority) or Section V -Program
50 Implementation, (I. Oversight and Administration or IV. Application) which will require a public hearing
51 and further approval by the Rock County Board of Supervisors.

Respectfully submitted:

LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

PACE AD HOC COMMITTEE

Richard Bostwick, Chair

Alan Sweeney, Chair

Larry Wiedenfeld, Vice-Chair

John Lader, Vice-Chair

James Quade

Ronald Combs

Eva Arnold

Richard Bostwick

Ronald Combs

Scott Farrington

Alan Sweeney

David Rebut

David Innis

Charles Rusch Jr.

Katie Kuznacic

Neil Deupree

Neil Walter

William Barlass

Raymond Henschler

Mark Gunn

Donald Jones

Julie Christensen

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(PACE) PROGRAM AND APPROVAL OF THE PACE PROGRAM MANUAL

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Jerry Scheutz

Archie Morton Jr

Douglas Marklein

Eric Levitt

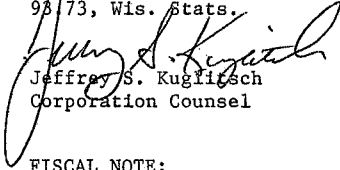
Ramona Flanigan

Julie Backenkeller

Fred Hookham

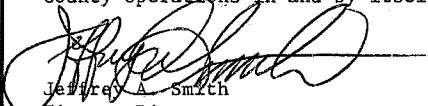
LEGAL NOTE:

The County Board is authorized to take
this action pursuant to § 59.51 and
98.73, Wis. Stats.


Jeffrey S. Kuglitsch
Corporation Counsel

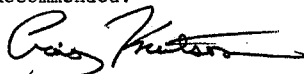
FISCAL NOTE:

This resolution authorizes the adoption
of the Rock County PACE Program Manual
which has no fiscal impact on Rock
County operations in and by itself.


Jeffrey A. Smith
Finance Director

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Recommended.


Craig Knutson
County Administrator

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The County Board of Supervisors took action during their February 2009 meeting authorizing the formation of an Ad Hoc Committee to develop a Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easement (PACE) Program. The mission of the Rock County PACE Program is to work in cooperation with local governments to enhance Rock County's quality of life by building consensus towards a regional vision, to include preservation of agricultural land, the agricultural economy, and the County's rural character, and responsible growth and development in appropriate areas.

The Ad Hoc Committee was charged with the development of the program eligibility criteria and the development of a program manual, which will be used to guide the program into the future. To achieve these goals, the committee met 15 times over one and half years to develop the program eligibility criteria, the land evaluation and site assessment system criteria that was used to identify priority target areas, and finally a draft copy of the program manual. The manual will be used to guide the program into the future.

The Ad Hoc Committee and the Land Conservation Committee held a public informational meeting on December 1, 2010 to obtain public input for consideration prior to recommending adoption of the PACE Program Manual.