April 20, 2017

MEMO TO: Commissioners, Dane County Lakes & Watershed Commission

FROM: Gary Werner, President, CRANES

SUBJECT: Support for 2016 RES 469 “Healthy Farms, Healthy Lakes” Task Force

Dear Commissioners

CRANES is pleased to support the creation of the Healthy Farms, Healthy Lakes Task Force by the Dane County Board. We applaud the County for addressing the on-going challenges of phosphorus runoff from urban and rural land uses and agricultural practices.

Over the last several years, the Lakes & Watershed Commission, the Environment, Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee, and the Land Conservation Committee, the major conservation and environmental committees of the Dane County Board, have studied and discussed with researchers, county conservation staff and many stakeholders the broad range and complexity of issues that impact farming and lake water quality. Many of these efforts and past adopted policies and programs are recognized in the charge to the Task Force.

RES 469 recognizes many of the important stakeholders in the proposed membership of the Task Force. We urge the Task Force leaders to provide multiple opportunities for the broader public and other stakeholders to contribute to Task Force discussions as well.

Thank you for your consideration of this input.

Sincerely,

Gary Werner
President