May 28, 2019

RE: League of Women Voters of Dane County supports land purchase for Pheasant Branch Conservancy, 2019 Res. 044

Dear Dane County Supervisors,

The League of Women Voters supports efforts to maintain the environmental quality of both urban and rural parts of the county through actions such as acquiring and preserving wetlands and adjacent uplands. Proper management of water involves not only management of the water itself but also management of the land and watersheds which drain into water bodies such as streams or lakes.

The League of Women Voters of Dane County therefore supports the purchase of approximately 160 acres from Acker Middleton Farms, Inc. This property is adjacent to the Pheasant Branch Conservancy and is located within the Yahara River Watershed. Restoration of this property to natural prairie will improve infiltration and reduce sediment and phosphorus runoff. This will have a positive impact not only on nearby Lake Mendota but also on the other downstream lakes (Monona, Waubesa, Kegonsa).

The League of Women Voters of Dane County strongly supports a positive vote on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Aileen Nettleton, President