

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024-\_\_**

**Authorizing Extension of County Farm Agricultural Lease**

Executive Summary

In 2025, Jefferson County will own approximately 210 acres of farmland. As ongoing construction could impact the total number of acres available for farming, it would be prudent to extend the current lease for one year instead of putting it out to bid for three years. The current lease ends on February 28, 2025, and has a rental rate of \$290.25 per acre. The Finance Committee and the Land and Water Conservation Committee considered this resolution at their meetings on September 3, 2024 and September 18, 2024 respectively, and recommended forwarding to the County Board for approval.

WHEREAS, the Executive Summary is incorporated into this resolution, and

WHEREAS, the County Farm is currently leased by Jeff and Monica Gerner, W8215 Perry Road, Fort Atkinson, for a one-year lease term (March 1, 2024 through February 28, 2025), and

WHEREAS, the current lease is for \$290.25 per acre on 162.4 acres for a total of approximately \$47,136.60, and

WHEREAS, there may be changes to the total acreage available for farming in the next year which would complicate the bidding process for a 3-year contract.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County Administrator is authorized to enter into a one-year lease with Jeff and Monica Gerner for 210 acres of county farmland at \$290.25 per acre for a total of \$60,952.50 under the same terms and conditions as the current lease.

*Fiscal Note: Total rent payable to Jefferson County for the one-year lease term is \$60,952.50, subject to prorate changes to acreage. This amount is contained in the 2025 General Revenue budget business unit.*

Ayes: \_\_\_\_\_ Noes: \_\_\_\_\_ Abstain: \_\_\_\_\_ Absent: \_\_\_\_\_ Vacant: \_\_\_\_\_

Referred By  
Finance Committee and Land and Water Conservation Committee

11-8-2024

REVIEWED: Corporation Counsel: \_\_\_\_\_; Finance Director: \_\_\_\_\_