

TO THE HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF BERRIEN COUNTY:

Your County Personnel and Human Services Committee respectfully recommends the adoption of the following:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Berrien County has developed Paw Paw River County Park on the Paw Paw River Water-trail with a trail-head and parking areas, barrier-free walkways, benches, a barrier free kayak launch and other amenities and based on observed attendance, the park is quickly proving to be very popular recreation area; and

WHEREAS, an adjacent property owner, across the river from Paw Paw River County Park, with approximately sixty-three acres along the Paw Paw River water-trail, known as the "Enders Property" has a desire for their property to become part of Paw Paw River County Park and are willing to remove the property from the market and work with Berrien County Parks on a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant; and

WHEREAS, this acquisition, which is a priority in the 2015-2019 Berrien County Parks and Recreation "Five Year Plan," would protect the property from future development, add public access and land along the Paw Paw River Water-trail and provide possible recreational opportunities such hiking trails, biking areas, cross-country skiing, outdoor photography, turkey and deer hunting and fishing within Paw Paw River County Park; and

WHEREAS, a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant will cover up to 75% of the Fair Market Value of the purchase of the property; and

WHEREAS, the grant requires a minimum of 25% grant match that will come from the Berrien County Parks Commission budget or the Parks Endowment fund.

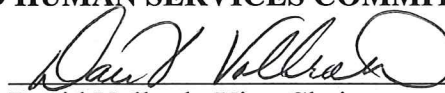
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Berrien County Board of Commissioners does hereby authorize the Parks Department, to apply for an \$80,000 Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant with a match provided of \$30,000 for an estimated fair market value purchase price of \$110,000 for the acquisition of the Enders Property.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

BERRIEN COUNTY PERSONNEL AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE



William J. Chickering, Chairperson



David Vollrath, Vice-Chairman



Teri Sue Freehling

RESOLUTION APPROVED AS TO FORM	
Administrator _____	Date _____
Committee Attached _____	
Reports Council _____	Date _____
Comments Attached _____	