

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-2

A RESOLUTION OF THE LA PORTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AUTHORIZING THE LA PORTE COUNTY PARKS DEPARTMENT TO APPLY FOR A UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE RURAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT GRANT (RBDG) - BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY GRANT FOR HUNT LAKE

WHEREAS, La Porte County, Indiana (the "County") is a unit of local government organized and operating under the laws of the State of Indiana; and

WHEREAS, the La Porte County Parks Department (the "Department") is a department of the County responsible for the management, maintenance, and development of County parks and recreational facilities, including Hunt Lake; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Agriculture ("USDA") administers the Rural Business Development Grant ("RBDG") Program, the purpose of which is to promote economic development and job creation in rural areas through the awarding of grant funds to eligible entities; and

WHEREAS, the RBDG Program offers two separate funding categories: (1) Business Opportunity Grants; and (2) Business Enterprise Grants. The Business Opportunity Grant category is specifically designed to fund broad community-level planning, capacity-building, and technical assistance efforts that serve rural areas; and

WHEREAS, following consultation with USDA representatives, the Department has determined that the Business Opportunity Grant category is the most appropriate and advantageous funding vehicle for the proposed development and community planning efforts at Hunt Lake; and

WHEREAS, the Department seeks authorization from the Board of Commissioners to submit an application for a USDA RBDG Business Opportunity Grant to support planning, capacity-building, and community development initiatives at Hunt Lake that will promote economic development, enhance public recreational opportunities, and benefit the rural communities served by the County; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners finds that the submission of such a grant application is in the best interests of the County and its residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

by the La Porte County Board of Commissioners as follows:

Section 1. Findings Incorporated. The foregoing recitals are incorporated herein and adopted as findings of fact by the Board of Commissioners.

Section 2. Authorization to Apply. The La Porte County Parks Department is hereby authorized and directed to prepare and submit an application to the United States Department of Agriculture for a Rural Business Development Grant (Business Opportunity Grant) for purposes related to the planning, capacity-building, and community development at Hunt Lake, La Porte County, Indiana.

Section 3. Authorized Representative. The La Porte County Parks Department Director, or his designee, is hereby authorized to execute all documents, certifications, and assurances required in connection with the grant application, and to take all other actions reasonably necessary to effectuate the purposes of this Resolution.

Section 4. Grant Compliance. In the event that a grant award is made, the La Porte County Parks Department is authorized and directed to comply with all applicable USDA program requirements, terms, conditions, and federal regulations governing the use of RBDG Business Opportunity Grant funds.

Section 5. No Obligation to Appropriate. This Resolution does not constitute a commitment of County funds beyond any required grant match that may be separately authorized by the Board. Any required local match shall be subject to a separate appropriation and approval by the Board of Commissioners.

Section 6. Effective Date. This Resolution shall be effective upon adoption by the La Porte County Board of Commissioners.

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ADOPTED by the La Porte County Board of Commissioners at a duly noticed meeting held on the 17th day of June 2026.



Steve Holifield, President

absent

Connie Gramarossa, Vice President



Joe Haney, Member



Attest: Michael Rosenbaum, Auditor

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