

RESOLUTION NO. R 025 17

TO SUBMIT A REQUEST TO THE DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL'S (DNREC) OUTDOOR RECREATION, PARKS AND TRAILS (ORPT) PROGRAM FOR A 50% MATCHING GRANT TO FINANCE THE PHASE I CONSTRUCTION OF THE JAMES FARM ECOLOGICAL PRESERVE MASTER PLAN

WHEREAS, in 1998, Sussex County began leasing the property, known as the James Farm Ecological Preserve, to the Delaware Center for the Inland Bays, a non-profit organization, to provide property management, offer educational opportunities, and allow public outreach, to foster the wise use and enhancement of the Inland Bays watershed; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, Sussex County agreed with the Delaware Center for the Inland Bays for the need to complete the James Farm Ecological Preserve Master Plan, to detail specific site improvements to help accommodate the expansive growth in the number of visitors occurring at the Preserve; and

WHEREAS, in 2015 Sussex County, allocated \$37,500.00 to allow the Delaware Center for the Inland Bays to apply for a DNREC matching ORPT Grant in the amount of \$37,500.00, to complete the design, engineering and permitting work, for the Phase I Construction of the James Farm Ecological Preserve Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, the DNREC ORPT Grant was awarded allowing Sussex County and the Delaware Center for the Inland Bays to contract with Century Engineering, for completion of the design, engineering and permitting work for the Phase I Construction of the James Farm Ecological Preserve Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, the design, engineering and permitting work for Phase I Construction of the James Farm Ecological Preserve Master Plan has been completed; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, Sussex County allocated \$65,000.00 in their FY18 Budget towards the Phase I Construction of the James Farm Ecological Preserve Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Delaware Center for the Inland Bays will provide \$20,000.00 in funding towards the Phase I Construction of the James Farm Ecological Preserve Master Plan; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Sussex County Council of Sussex County, Delaware hereby acknowledges its support of the ongoing operations and maintenance of the James Farm Ecological Preserve; Approves and acknowledges the Engineering Department's application submission on behalf of the Delaware Center for the Inland Bays, for a matching ORPT Grant to the DNREC, in the amount of \$85,000.00, for assistance in funding the Phase 1 Construction of the James Farm Ecological Preserve Master Plan; and Furthermore designates the Delaware Center for the Inland Bays' Program Manager, Bob Collins, to serve as the ORPT Grant's Project Manager, in conjunction with the Engineering Department, if Grant is awarded.

I DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF RESOLUTION NO. R 025 17 ADOPTED BY THE SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL ON THE 19TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2017.

**ROBIN A. GRIFFITH
CLERK OF THE COUNCIL**