

SHEBOYGAN COUNTY RESOLUTION NO. 21 (2011/12)

Re: **Approving Participation in Sheboygan Harbor Dredging Project**

**Printed as Amended*

WHEREAS, because of the ongoing build up of sediment in the Sheboygan River Harbor, the Harbor has become inaccessible to all but only very shallow draft vessels, thus inhibiting navigation and recreation and adversely impacting economic development and the quality of life in Sheboygan County, and

WHEREAS, because of the low level of contamination in the sediment, the Harbor is not eligible for federal financing of dredging and removal of the sediment from the Harbor, without a significant amount of matching funding by “non-Federal” interests (meaning local governments), and local governments would also be required to provide for the expenses of the relocation of the dredged sediment, and

WHEREAS, the expense to local governments for matching funds and for the dredging and the relocation of the dredged sediment would ordinarily be prohibitive and thus the Harbor dredging would not be undertaken; and

WHEREAS, because of the interplay of factors unique to this project between the Environmental Protection Agency and the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the creative use of federal Great Lakes Restoration Initiative financing, it is possible for the Army Corps of Engineers to undertake this project without the requirement of local government matching funds, but the local governments would still be responsible to provide for the expenses of the relocation of the dredged sediment, and

WHEREAS, if the local governments were to be responsible for the expense of placing the dredged sediment at a licensed solid waste disposal facility, it would still be prohibitively expensive, and the Harbor dredging would still not be undertaken, and

WHEREAS, a site has been identified at the Sheboygan County Memorial Airport, which, if properly prepared, could safely host the dredged sediment, provided an exemption can be obtained from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources from the requirement of the use of a licensed solid waste disposal facility, and

WHEREAS, if the Sheboygan County Memorial Airport would be given an exemption from the licensed solid waste disposal facility requirement, Sheboygan County, along with the City of Sheboygan, would be able to fulfill the local government responsibilities in order to allow the Harbor dredging to be undertaken.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the County Board of Supervisors of the County of Sheboygan agrees to act as a “non-Federal” partner along with the City of Sheboygan with respect to the U. S. Army Corps of Engineering Harbor Dredging Project, and in so acting, directs the County Administrator to negotiate and execute on behalf of Sheboygan County such applications and agreements as may be necessary to effectuate and implement the Harbor Dredging Project.

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the County Administrator shall be limited in the exercise of the foregoing authority to the design and dredging phase, and that any financial commitments or siting decisions not heretofore approved shall be reviewed by and submitted to the County Board for approval, by resolution introduced by the Executive and Finance Committees and voted upon for immediate consideration at the next available County board meeting, it being expressly understood that pursuant the Wis. Stat. § 59.52(29) in the event the Sheboygan County Memorial Airport is selected as the dredge deposit site, all necessary road and site work at the Airport shall be undertaken by the Sheboygan County Highway Department.

Respectfully submitted this 24th day of January, 2012.

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ADOPTED 02.21.2012