

1 047-82016

2 **RESOLUTION: Designate the Usage of the Grandstand & Racetrack Area of the**
3 **Winnebago County Fairgrounds and Expo Center**

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6 **TO THE WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

7 **WHEREAS**, a comprehensive plan and proposal to bring racing back to the Winnebago County Fairgrounds
8 was approved in March of 1998 by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the County now has the crown jewel of dirt racetracks, which is fully utilized and is operating
10 successfully; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the motorsports events that are held at the facility create significant economic impact for
12 hundreds if not thousands of businesses in Winnebago County and provide employment for over fifty (50)
13 employees; and

14 **WHEREAS**, a number of the annual motorsports events that are hosted at the facility promote tourism to
15 Winnebago County, as competitors and spectators come from all over the United States for these events; and

16 **WHEREAS**, stock car racing provides quality family entertainment and improves the quality of life for many
17 taxpayers of Winnebago County; and

18 **WHEREAS**, the facility works well for all the motorsports events held by the Winnebago County Fair; and

19 **WHEREAS**, converting the facility into a music venue would result in additional investment by taxpayers, and
20 may cause new drainage problems that were corrected when the track was built in 1998; and

21 **WHEREAS**, there is another beautiful music venue within 10 miles of the facility that is grossly underutilized
22 and cannot even support a full schedule of concerts and the owners cannot find a promoter to market the venue; and

23 **WHEREAS**, when the short outdoor concert season in Wisconsin is examined, it is apparent that Winnebago
24 County and surrounding areas are saturated with established music events leaving very few if any dates for new
25 music events in the area; and

26 **WHEREAS**, the music event known as "Lifest" has co-existed with the racetrack since Lifest moved to the
27 Expo grounds and should be able to be accommodated by the Expo Center and/or County Park into the future. Expo
28 grounds has more acreage that has not been developed that could accommodate a permanent stage thus having
29 more income for the county with both venues.

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31 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it hereby
32 designates the use of the Grandstand & Racetrack area for the purpose of motorsports events or other uses that may
33 come to light that are compatible with the present facilities and improvements.

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35 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that this designation of use
36 shall stand until such time as there would be no interest by motorsports competitors and spectators.

37 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it charges the
38 Winnebago County Parks Department with the task of finding a promoter for the racetrack, or alternatively to enter
39 into further negotiations with the present track promoters, as they have been in good standings to date and have a
40 successfully proven track record operating the race track.

41 Respectfully submitted by:

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Maribeth Gabert, District 12

Committee Vote: _____

Vote Required for Passage: **Majority of those Present**

Approved by the Winnebago County Executive this _____ day of _____, 2016.

Mark L Harris
Winnebago County Executive