

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
DAKOTA COUNTY, NEBRASKA

RESOLUTION 21C-015

**RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S
"30 X 30" LAND PRESERVATION GOAL**

WHEREAS, Dakota County is a legal and political subdivision of the State of Nebraska for which the Board of County Commissioners ("Board") is authorized to act; and

WHEREAS, Dakota County, containing about 165,120 acres of land situated in the extreme northeast corner with the Missouri River flowing on the north and east borders and 264 square miles is land and 3.2 square miles is water; and

WHEREAS, the federal government currently owns 0.0% of the land within Dakota County; there are no perpetual conservation easements on private land; there are no designated federal parks, wilderness or refuges; and

WHEREAS, on January 27, 2021, President Joseph R. Biden, Jr., issued Executive Order 14008 entitled *Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad* (86 Fed. Reg. 7,619); and

WHEREAS, in Section 216 of Executive Order 14008, President Biden directed the Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture and other senior officials, to develop a program to conserve at least 30 percent of the lands and waters in the United States by 2030, which is called the "30 x 30" program; and

WHEREAS, under the 30 x 30 program, some 680 million acres of our Nation's lands would be set aside and permanently preserved in its natural state, preventing the productive use of these lands and their resources; and

WHEREAS, there is no constitutional or statutory authority for the President, the Department of the Interior, the Department of Agriculture or any other federal agency to set aside and permanently preserve 30 percent of all land and water in the United States, and no such authority is referenced in Executive Order 14008; and

WHEREAS, the 30 x 30 program, if implemented, is likely to cause significant harm to the economy of Dakota County.

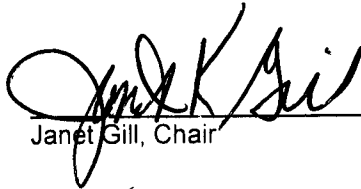
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Dakota County, Nebraska, as follows:

1. The Board opposes the 30 x 30 program, including its objective of permanently preserving 30 percent of the Nation's lands in its natural state by 2030, or any similar program that will set aside and prevent the productive use of millions of acres of our lands.
2. The Board supports maintaining and enhancing public access to public lands and national forests and apposes road closures, road decommissioning, moratoria on road construction and other limitations on public access for the purpose of fulfilling the 30 x 30 program's objectives.
3. The Board recognizes and supports the State of Nebraska's water rights system, including the doctrine of prior appropriation and other state laws and programs governing water rights and water use, and opposes any federal designation of waters and watercourses within the County that would impair or restrict water diversions and uses authorized under Nebraska law.
4. The Board supports reasonable national, regional and global greenhouse gas emissions policies and goals that are comprehensive, practical, cost-effective and do not

unnecessarily single out specific industries or activities; but opposes the use of global climate change as an excuse to set aside large tracts of land as preserves or open space to fulfill the 30 x 30 program's objectives.

- 5 The Board maintains that the designation of public lands or conservation land to fulfill the 30 x 30 program's objectives may lawfully occur, if at all, only through the planning process mandated by the Federal Land Management and Policy Act including public notice and an opportunity to comment, analysis and disclosure of the impacts of such land acquisitions on the well-being, health, safety, welfare, economy and culture of Dakota County, its businesses, and its citizens, and careful coordination with Dakota County to ensure consistency with County land use plans and land management policies.
- 6 The Board also maintains that any non-federal lands or other rights that are acquired to fulfill the 30 x 30 program's objectives should be acquired only from willing landowners and for the payment of full and fair market value for all rights and interests acquired, and not through regulatory compulsion, and only after analyzing and considering the impacts of such land acquisitions on the well-being, health, safety, welfare, economy and culture of Dakota County, its businesses and its citizens.
7. The Board shall send a copy of Resolution to the Department of Interior, Department of Agriculture and all other relevant Federal and State agencies.

Passed and adopted this 17th day of May, 2021.


Janet Gill, Chair

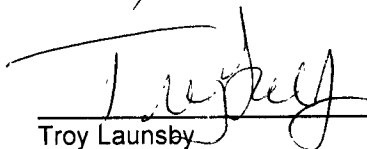
(voted No)

Robert Giese


Larry Albernesius

Absent

Scott Love


Troy Launsby

ATTEST:


Joan Spencer, County Clerk

