

REVISED



**April Board Cycle**

**Milwaukee County Parks**  
9480 Watertown Plank Rd.  
Wauwatosa, WI 53226  
(414) 257-PARK

Date: March 22, 2019  
To: Theodore Lipscomb, Sr., Chairman, County Board of Supervisors  
From: Guy Smith, CPRP, Parks Director  
Subject: **Agricultural Lease Agreements (ACTION)**

**Issue**

Authorizing Milwaukee County Parks to enter into Agricultural Lease Agreements with individual farmers for the benefit of Milwaukee County land.

**Background**

Milwaukee County Parks manages 881 acres of agricultural land for the purpose of growing and harvesting agricultural row-crops, vegetable crops, and hay. The agricultural lands held by the county are located within designated primary environmental corridors as defined by Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC). A primary environmental corridor is defined as “concentrations of significant natural resources at least 400 acres in area, at least two miles in length, and at least 200 feet in width.” The majority of these sites are located along the Oak Creek, Ryan Creek, and Root River and are prone to high water tables or seasonal flooding. In addition, keeping these lands in production deters invasive plant species from overtaking the land.

Milwaukee County Parks leases this land to both individual farmers and non-profit community-based organizations. Each lessee is responsible for working with Milwaukee County Parks on the development of a Conservation Plan specific to their parcel(s) to reduce soil loss, achieve water quality goals, and protect the natural resource base. Milwaukee County Parks’ Natural Areas section manages all agricultural leases for the department.

The term of each lease is selected based on factors such as the conservation method, the crop rotation cycle, and the likelihood that the parcel may cease to be available for farming. Rent payments vary due to the size of the parcel and were developed based on United States Department of Agriculture and State of Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection fair market value rates for southeastern Wisconsin.



The following leases are under consideration:

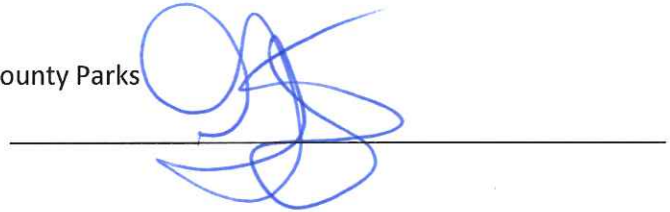
<u>Lessee</u>	<u>Annual Rent</u>	<u>Acreage</u>	<u>Lease Term</u>
Ronald Fratrack	\$100.00	8.8	3 Years
Jeff Gassenhuber	\$2,792.00	38.0	3 Years
Robert Grove	\$3,576.00	47.6	3 Years
Joseph Mainus	\$9,690.00	116.4	3 Years
John Napientek	\$13,990.00	171.1	3 Years
James Roszina	\$4,083.00	50.3	3 Years
Robert Petzold	\$2,740.00	33.9	1 Year (with two 1 year renewals)
Vincent Schmit	\$1,530.00	17.0	1 Year (with two 1 year renewals)

**Recommendation**

Authorize Milwaukee County Parks to execute Agricultural Lease Agreements with Ronald Fratrack, Jeff Gassenhuber, Robert Grove, Joseph Mainus, John Napientek, James Roszina, Robert Petzold, and Vincent Schmit.

Prepared By: Erica Hayden, Contracts Manager, Milwaukee County Parks

Approved By: Guy Smith, CPRP, Parks Director



**Attachments**

- Attachment 1 – Fiscal Note
- Attachment 2 – Resolution
- Attachment 3 – Ronald Fratrack Ag Lease
- Attachment 4 – Jeff Gassenhuber Ag Lease
- Attachment 5 – Robert Grove Ag Lease
- Attachment 7 – Joseph Mainus Ag Lease
- Attachment 8 – John Napientek Ag Lease
- Attachment 9 – James Roszina Ag Lease
- Attachment 10 – Robert Petzold Ag Lease
- Attachment 11 – Vincent Schmit Ag Lease

**Copy**



Empowering People  
Strengthening Community



- Chris Abele, County Executive
- Raisa Koltun, Chief of Staff, County Executive's Office
- Jason Haas, Parks, Energy & Environment Chair, Supervisor District 14
- Sheldon Wasserman, Parks, Energy & Environment Vice-Chair, Supervisor District 3
- Marcelia Nicholson, Parks, Energy & Environment Committee Member, Supervisor District 5
- Felesia Martin, Parks, Energy & Environment Committee Member, Supervisor District 7
- Steven Shea, Parks, Energy & Environment Committee Member, Supervisor District 8
- James Luigi Schmitt, Supervisor District 6
- Patti Logsdon, Supervisor District 9
- Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, County Board of Supervisors
- Kelsey Evans, Committee Coordinator, Office of the County Clerk
- Emily Peterson, Research & Policy Analyst, Office of the Comptroller
- Jeremy Lucas, Fiscal Mgt. Analyst, Admin & Fiscal Affairs/DAS



Empowering People  
Strengthening Community



