Resolution Authorizing Advisory Referendum On Raising County Tax Levy To Construct And Operate A New Bloomfield Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center

Whereas Iowa County currently owns and operates the Bloomfield Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center ("Bloomfield"), a skilled nursing care facility located at 3151 County Road CH, Dodgeville, WI; and

Whereas, Bloomfield has a rich history of providing quality care to its residents; and

Whereas, the requirements of skilled long-term care have changed dramatically over the long and remarkable history of Bloomfield; and

Whereas, the existing Bloomfield facility requires operational decisions and staffing at a level and style not consistent with a more current model of care; and

Whereas, Iowa County desires to keep operations at Bloomfield updated, current, and cost-effective; and

Whereas, facility improvements and updates that would be needed to operate Bloomfield under a more current model of skilled nursing care would result in substantial costs to the County; and

Whereas, the Board authorized a strategic plan study to address specific Bloomfield facility and operational cost concerns to be followed by a public referendum in 2014 with a ballot question advising the County Board of Iowa County to address and resolve the future of the Bloomfield operation and facility for the foreseeable future; and

Whereas, the Iowa County Board recognizes the public health contribution of Bloomfield and our dedicated staff in their role of providing rehabilitation and skilled care in Iowa County and the recommendations of the study; and

Whereas, providing rehabilitation services, assisted living, and skilled nursing care is consistent with the mission of Bloomfield; and

Whereas, the Bloomfield strategic planning work group has recommended that Iowa County should construct a new Bloomfield Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center that would include both skilled nursing care and assisted living facilities; and

Whereas, Iowa County could not fund the construction and operation of a new Bloomfield facility without increasing the tax levy;

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved that the Iowa County Board hereby approves placing the following question to the voters of Iowa County in an advisory referendum during the November 2014 election:

"Should Iowa County be authorized to raise the County tax levy to construct and operate a new Bloomfield Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center?"

□YES □ NO