

Introduced by the Judiciary and Finance Committees of the:

INGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE OPERATION OF A COMMUNITY SUPPORTED
AGRICULTURE (CSA) PROGRAM AS A PART OF
THE 4-H YOUTH GARDEN AND FARM STAND PROGRAMS
AT THE INGHAM COUNTY FAMILY CENTER**

RESOLUTION #11-118

WHEREAS, MSU Extension and the 30th Circuit Court, Family Division operate a half acre 4-H youth garden, hoop house, and chicken coop at the Ingham County Family Center (ICFC) for the purpose of providing students with the hands-on experience of raising fresh fruits, vegetables and eggs, learning about nutrition, and job skill development; and

WHEREAS, in addition to operating the 4-H garden program, operating a small Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program is proposed. In a CSA, individuals purchase a "share" which entitles them to a portion of produce (and potentially eggs) based on the garden's production; and

WHEREAS, the benefits of adding the CSA fundraising activity to the current program model are that youth will have increased opportunities to learn entrepreneurship and business skills, two youths will be hired as work study students, and community members will have an opportunity to become more involved and supportive of the youth served by the ICFC; and

WHEREAS, the remaining half of the garden, as well as the orchard and hoop house, will continue to be used to grow food for the ICFC meals, sold at the youth farm stands, and donated; and

WHEREAS, safe food handling practices are followed by any staff member or student coming into contact with produce and eggs; and

WHEREAS, from a liability perspective, this endeavor was determined by MMRMA to fall into the realm of typical county business, as a fund raising event; and

WHEREAS, the income from the CSA is estimated to be no more than \$1,500 and Ingham County MSU Extension will serve as the fiduciary agent.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ingham County Board of Commissioners authorizes MSU Extension and the 30th Circuit Court, Family Division to operate a small CSA as an educational program and fundraiser at the Ingham County Family Center.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that funds raised from the CSA shares will be used to hire two work-study students to help with aspects of maintenance for the CSA and other garden improvements/operation.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, MSU Extension is authorized to enter into an agreement with up to five shareholders at \$300, or ten at \$150 for half shares, or a combination of the two, totaling no more than \$1,500 of income.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Attorney develops an agreement form to be signed by CSA shareholders and MSU Extension departmental designee, which define the terms and conditions of the CSA agreement.

JUDICIARY: Yeas: Koenig, Holman, Tennis, Tsernoglou, Schafer

Nays: None **Absent:** Bahar-Cook **Approved 3/31/11**

FINANCE: Yeas: Tsernoglou, McGrain, Dougan

Nays: None **Absent:** Schor, Bahar-Cook, Nolan **Approved 4/6/11**