

REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION

OG-25-07-287

BCC Public Meeting: Thursday, July 10th, 2025 at 11:00am

Subject: Groff Farm CE Open Lands Bond Program - Phase V Approval

I. Action Requested

This is a request to act on the Groff Farm CE Open Lands Bond Program (OLBP) Phase Five final documentation.

II. Background

- In November of 2006, the citizens of Ravalli County voted to pass the Open Lands Bond ballot question, and spend \$10 million dollars to help preserve open lands in Ravalli County.
- In December of 2006, the Ravalli County Board of County Commissioners (BCC) signed Resolution #2256, which established the Ravalli County Open Lands Bond Program.
- The Open Lands Board (OLB) was established by Resolution #2020 in December of 2006 to review OLBP applications and make recommendations to the BCC.
- The Groff Farm CE OLBP application was submitted on August 21st, 2024.
- On October 17th, 2024, the OLB voted (9-0) to recommend the project be approved by the BCC at the \$395,000.00 funding level requested.
- On December 3rd, 2024, the BCC voted 3-0 to preliminarily approve the application at the funding level requested.
- Final Documentation, required pursuant to the BCC's preliminary approval, was submitted to the Planning Department by the Bitter Root Land Trust on May 29th, 2025.
- The Planning Department has determined that the final documentation is complete, and in conformance with the BCC's preliminary approval.
- The Planning Department provided the documentation to the County Attorney's Office for their review and no comments were received.

III. Recommended Motion

That the Groff Farm CE final documentation be approved, and that the requested \$395,000.00 be issued to Fidelity National Title to distribute to Groff Family LLC and Ann Groff to help cover the cost of the conservation easement and project-related costs.

Attachment (To BCC upon request): Groff Farm CE OLBP Final Documentation

Staff: Jamie Moffatt

Cc: County Attorney's Office, Bitter Root Land Trust, Conservation

Easement File, Outgoing Correspondence File

Date: July 10, 2025