

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE NATURAL AREAS LAND CONSERVANCY'S APPLICATION TO THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S LOCAL AGRICULTURE EASEMENT PURCHASE PROGRAM (LAEPP) ON BEHALF OF STEVE AND SHARON GRUSKIEWICZ FOR THE PURPOSE OF FARMLAND PRESERVATION IN WAYNE TOWNSHIP, ASHTABULA COUNTY, OHIO

WHEREAS, Steve and Sharon Gruskiewicz representing a Wayne Township and Ashtabula County farm, desire to apply to the Clean Ohio Local Agricultural Easement Purchase Program (LAEPP) in partnership with Natural Areas Land Conservancy to preserve approximately 103 acres of farmland in Wayne Township, Ashtabula County; and

WHEREAS, Natural Areas Land Conservancy is a Certified Local Sponsor for the State of Ohio's Local Agricultural Easement Purchase Program (LAEPP); and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Ashtabula County Commissioners supports the LAEPP application submitted by the Natural Areas Land Conservancy in filing the application to obtain an Agricultural Easement for Steve and Sharon Gruskiewicz for the purpose of farmland preservation in Wayne Township, Ashtabula County, Ohio.

**ASHTABULA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
CERTIFICATION PAGE**

Resolution No. 2024-175

March 26, 2024

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE NATURAL AREAS LAND CONSERVANCY'S APPLICATION TO THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S LOCAL AGRICULTURE EASEMENT PURCHASE PROGRAM (LAEPP) ON BEHALF OF STEVE AND SHARON GRUSKIEWICZ FOR THE PURPOSE OF FARMLAND PRESERVATION IN WAYNE TOWNSHIP, ASHTABULA COUNTY, OHIO

Upon the motion of Casey R. Kozlowski, seconded by J.P. Ducro IV.

VOTE:

**Kathryn L. Whittington
J.P. Ducro IV
Casey R. Kozlowski**

**Aye
Aye
Aye**

CERTIFICATE OF CLERK

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of a resolution acted upon and duly passed by the Board of County Commissioners of Ashtabula County, Ohio, on the date noted above.

Crystal Sturgill
Crystal Sturgill, Clerk of the Board
Board of County Commissioners
Ashtabula County, Ohio

Acting

Crystal M. Sturgill

From: Milan Tropf <mtropf@wrlandconservancy.org>
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2024 2:54 PM
To: Commissioners; Janet L. Discher; Lisa L. Hawkins
Cc: Nate Terhune; Jacob Pries
Subject: Resolution of Support for Farmland Preservation
Attachments: Gruskiewicz_20240315_Ashabula County Commissioners Resolution Memo.pdf; Wayne Township Trustees Resolution_20240311.pdf; Gruskiewicz_20240315_Ashabula County Resolution draft.docx; GruskiewiczSteve_20240212_Aerial.pdf

Hello Ashtabula County Commissioners,

My name is Milan Tropf and I am with Natural Areas Land Conservancy (NALC). NALC is a sister nonprofit to Western Reserve Land Conservancy and is a local sponsor for the Local Agricultural Easement Purchase Program through the Ohio Department of Agriculture. We are looking to get a resolution of support for a farmland preservation application in Wayne Township. Attached you will find a memo from our Northeast Field Director, Nate Terhune, a resolution of support from Wayne Township Board of Trustees, a draft resolution for your convenience, and a map of the applicant property. Our application is due by April 18th. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Best,

Milan Tropf | Manager of Public Policy
Western Reserve Land Conservancy
3850 Chagrin River Rd. | Moreland Hills, OH 44022
440.528.4167 (direct) | 440.528.4150 (main) | 440.990.4060 (cell)
[Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Donate Now](#)



**Western Reserve
Land Conservancy**
land • people • community



NATURAL AREAS LAND CONSERVANCY

3850 Chagrin River Road
Moreland Hills, Ohio 44022
P: (440) 528-4150
F: (440) 528-4160

Memorandum

To: Ashtabula County Commissioners

From: Nate Terhune, Northeast Field Director
Natural Areas Land Conservancy

Date: March 15, 2024

Subject: Resolution of Support for Natural Areas Land Conservancy's application to the Ohio Department of Agriculture's Local Agricultural Easement Purchase Program (LAEPP) on behalf of Steve and Sharon Gruskiewicz for the purpose of farmland preservation in Wayne Township

Dear Ashtabula County Commissioners,

Natural Areas Land Conservancy is requesting a Resolution of Support from the Ashtabula County Commissioners to include in our application to the Ohio Department of Agriculture's Local Agriculture Easement Purchase Program (LAEPP) for the purchase of an agricultural easement that will permanently preserve approximately 103 acres of the Gruskiewicz farm located in Wayne Township, Ashtabula County.

The Gruskiewicz property contains 2 total parcels. The parcels are located along State Route 193 and McClelland Road. If the Gruskiewicz LAEPP application is successful, it could encourage more farmers in Ashtabula County to preserve their land.

The application requires a Resolution of Support from the Ashtabula County Commissioners (suggested language attached). Please mail an original Resolution of Support and email an electronic copy to:

Milan Tropf
Natural Areas Land Conservancy
3850 Chagrin River Rd.
Moreland Hills, OH 44022
mtropf@wrlandconservancy.org

Please send the resolution as soon as it is available as the application due date is April 18, 2024. On behalf of the Natural Areas Land Conservancy, I would like to thank the Ashtabula County Commissioners for their support of this project. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at (216) 538-0244. We look forward to your response.

(continued)

Sincerely,

Nate Terhune
Northeast Field Director
Natural Areas Land Conservancy

**Wayne Township – Ashtabula County
Board of Trustees Resolution**

Resolution of Support for Natural Areas Land Conservancy's application to the Ohio Department of Agriculture's Local Agriculture Easement Purchase Program (LAEPP) on behalf of Steve and Sharon Gruskiewicz for the purpose of farmland preservation in Wayne Township, Ashtabula County.

WHEREAS, Steve and Sharon Gruskiewicz, representing a Wayne Township and Ashtabula County farm, desires to apply to the Clean Ohio Local Agricultural Easement Purchase Program (LAEPP) in partnership with Natural Areas Land Conservancy to preserve approximately 103 acres of farmland in Wayne Township, Ashtabula County;

WHEREAS, Natural Areas Land Conservancy is a Certified Local Sponsor for the State of Ohio's Local Agricultural Easement Purchase Program (LAEPP);

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wayne Township Board of Trustees supports the LAEPP application submitted by Natural Areas Land Conservancy for Steve and Sharon Gruskiewicz in Wayne Township, Ashtabula County.






Passed this 11 day of MARCH, 2024.

Signature, date

Kenneth R. Colman 3/11/24
Signature, date

Adam J. Berven 3/11/24
Signature, date

Aerial

-  Property Boundary - 103.6 acres
-  Parcels
-  County Boundaries
-  Township Boundaries
-  River/Stream
-  State Highways
-  County & Township Roads



**Western Reserve
Land Conservancy**
land • people • community

