RESOLUTION 11-04 ST. CLAIR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION TO SUBMIT LAND ACQUISITION GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE PURCHASE OF 2.75-ACRES OF PROPERTY ON THE ST. CLAIR RIVER LOCATED IN THE CITY OF PORT HURON FOR DEVELOPMENT OF A SECTION OF THE BRIDGE TO BAY TRAIL & COMMITMENT OF COUNTY MILLAGE FUNDS

WHEREAS, Acheson Ventures, owners of St. Clair River shoreline between the Seaway Terminal and the Black River in City of Port Huron, are willing to sell a portion of their property to St. Clair County for use as a County park and a section of the Bridge to Bay Trail; and

WHEREAS, the Community Foundation of St. Clair County is spearheading the development of the Blue Water River Walk which will be part of the Bridge to Bay Trail and will include the restoration of shoreline habitat and the protection of permanent public access to the St. Clair River shoreline south of the Black River, and has asked St. Clair County to assist the public project by purchasing the south end of the project area from Acheson Ventures; and

WHEREAS, the proposed project is consistent with the St. Clair County Master Recreation Plan Acquisition Goals which propose to "Continue to work in concert with Acheson Ventures to promote public access along the shoreline portion of its property in downtown Port Huron"; to "Pursue the acquisition of new properties that are culturally and/or naturally significant in conjunction with the Southeast Michigan Greenways Plan"; and to provide "Opportunities for water access and a system of water trails"; and

WHEREAS, the St. Clair County Parks and Recreation Commission voted unanimously on March 10, 2011 to recommend that the St. Clair County Board of Commissioners approve the submission of an acquisition grant application to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund; and

WHEREAS, a Public Hearing was held on March 16, 2011 to hear public comment on the proposed grant application.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the St. Clair County Board of Commissioners does hereby commit to provide the required local matching funds from the County Parks and Recreation millage in amount the amount of \$225,000; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the St. Clair County Board of Commissioners formally authorizes the submission of an acquisition grant application to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund to purchase 2.75-acres of land along the St. Clair River in the City of Port Huron from Acheson Ventures.

DATED: March 16, 2011

Reviewed and Approved as to form by:

GARY A. FLETCHER Corporation Counsel 522 Michigan Street Port Huron, Michigan