MERCER **AGRICULTURAL** COUNTY DEVELOPMENT **BOARD RECOMMENDS** COUNTY ACQUISITION OF AN AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT EASEMENT ON THE WERT FARM IN HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP, BLOCK 23, LOT 1.02 AND EXECUTION OF ALL **DOCUMENTS** NECESSARY FOR THE ACQUISITION, PUBLIC AUCTION AND SADC COST-SHARE GRANT.

WHEREAS, the County of Mercer is desirous of preserving agriculture and has established a County Agricultural Development Board (CADB) to develop procedures and programs for said purpose; and

WHEREAS, the CADB has delineated an Agricultural Development Area, farmland preservation Project Areas, and Targeted Farms for the acquisition of development easements utilizing State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) County Planning Incentive Grant cost-share application procedures; and

WHEREAS, the Wert Property ("Property"), Block 23, Lot 1.02 in Hopewell Township is a Targeted Farm within the County's previously delineated Hopewell East Project Area and the CADB is desirous of obtaining a cost-share SADC County Planning Incentive Grant for the farm preservation; and

WHEREAS, the County is under contract to purchase the Property in fee from the Wert family with the intention to place an agricultural development easement on the Property and sell the Property at public auction; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that conditioned upon availability of funding, the Mercer County Agricultural Development Board recommends County acquisition of an agricultural development easement on the Wert Property, Block 23, Lot 1.02 in Hopewell Township and execution of all documents needed for the acquisition, public auction and SADC cost-share grant.

I certify that the above Resolution was adopted at a meeting of the Mercer County Agricultural Development Board on April 5th, 2021.

Emily Blackman_

Emily Blackman, MCADB Administrator