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**Sponsor:** Community & Economic Development

**Meeting Date:** 10/12/2021

**Title:** Termination of Abatement Agreement for the Land O' Lakes  
Expansion Project

**File Number:** 2021-543

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**Background and Rationale:**

In 2016, Land O' Lakes requested an abatement of new property taxes generated the expansion of its headquarters campus in Arden Hills.

On April 12, 2016, Land O' Lakes, the city of Arden Hills and Ramsey County entered into an abatement agreement for the tax increment on the new Land O'Lakes headquarters. The agreement was later amended on March 28, 2017 due to a numerical error.

Land O' Lakes is now requesting termination of the abatement agreement. Land O' Lakes indicated circumstances have changed for the company and the pandemic in particular had an impact on the level and pace of job creation. Job creation is a required metric for which the company was allowed to seek financial benefits under the abatement agreement. As a result, Land O' Lakes is no longer seeking the past or future benefits of the abatement agreement.

The abatement agreement was approved by Ramsey County Board resolution, then, absent some specific direction, agreement, delegation, or statutory exception, a board resolution is necessary to unwind or dissolve the agreement.

The Arden Hills City Council plans to take up a similar action at their October 25, 2021 meeting.

**Recommendation:**

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners resolved to:

1. Terminate the property tax abatement agreement for the Land O' Lakes expansion project.
2. Authorize the County Manager to execute necessary documents to finalize the termination.

A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Ortega, seconded by Commissioner McGuire.  
Motion passed.

Aye: - 6: Carter, Frethem, MatasCastillo, McGuire, Ortega, and Reinhardt

Absent: - 1: McDonough

By:   
Mee Cheng, Chief Clerk - County Board