## RESOLUTION NO 12-04

## A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE BLACK HILLS REGIONAL MOUNTAIN PINE BEETLE STRATEGY

WHEREAS the mountain pine beetle has caused extensive damage throughout the Black Hills over the past 15 years, affecting more than 500,000 acres across all land ownerships and threatening the socio-economic and ecological values therein; and

WHEREAS the Black Hills Conservation Leaders Group was formed to synchronize the various local, state, and federal efforts through a shared vision and strategy; and

WHEREAS The Black Hills Conservation Leaders Group assigned a subcommittee to produce a draft of the Black Hills Regional Mountain Pine Beetle Strategy; and

WHEREAS the cost to the several counties of South Dakota and Wyoming to implement programs to effectively treat and control noxious weeds and invasive species continues to increase; and

WHEREAS the Black Hills Regional Mountain Pine Beetle Strategy helps coordinate the Weston County efforts with other agencies and organizations to produce a more cost-effective approach in mitigating the mountain pine beetle; and

WHEREAS Weston County is encouraged to participate and engage in applicable components outlined throughout the Strategy; and

THEREFORE the Weston County Commission endorses the Strategy and the Chairman is authorized to sign the final version of the Black Hills Regional Mountain Pine Beetle Strategy for the purpose expressed herein.

> PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Weston County Commissioners day of April, 2012. Byune
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this 3rd day of April, 2012.

ATTEST: