

Resolution

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMENDING

MIKE IRVING

Upon Receiving the Farmer of the Year Award

WHEREAS, Mike Irving graduated from the University of Massachusetts in Amherst in 2000 with a dual degree in Pre-Med and History, but a curiosity for gaining practical skills outside of academia led him to a farm in Vermont where he interned as a farmer and farm educator of adolescent and teen summer campers; and

WHEREAS, Mike Irving experienced an opportunity that opened his eyes to a new passion in life, working with the natural world, nurturing the creative power of the earth through agriculture, and sharing skills and knowledge with youth and adults alike; and

WHEREAS, Mike Irving, in 2002 and 2003, went on to study and teach sustainable agriculture at the UCSC Center for Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems, where he met his future business partner, John Vars; and

WHEREAS, Mike Irving returned to farm work in 2004, accepting a two-year managerial position at a small farm, Holly Hill Farm, on the coast south of Boston; and

WHEREAS, Mike Irving attended a farming conference in Pacific Grove in 2006, where he met Teresa Kurtak and soon partnered to run a small diverse farm in Santa Cruz; and

WHEREAS, Mike Irving with Teresa Kurtak and John Vars, in 2008, launched Fifth Crow Farm in Pescadero, a new farming operation built from scratch on a shoestring budget, big dreams and sore muscles that is rooted in a values-based approach to land stewardship, sustainable food systems and a vision for a viable future for local agriculture.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of San Mateo County hereby honors and commends **Mike Irving** upon receiving the **Farmer of the Year Award** from the Half Moon Bay Coastside Chamber of Commerce for the vision, passion and commitment to agriculture represented in Fifth Crow Farm and extends best wishes for continued success!

Dated: March 22, 2024

Supervisors:

Warren Slocum, President

Dave Pine

Noelia Corzo

Ray Mueller

David J. Canepa

Attest: Deputy Clerk of the Board of Supervisors