Resolution

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

* *

San Mateo County Large Animal Evacuation Group

* *

WHEREAS, starting on Sunday, August 16, 2020, fierce and unusual lightning strikes in Northern California sparked the beginning of the CZU Lightning Complex fire; and

WHEREAS, this fire would expand to more than 45,000 acres, ultimately increasing to 86,509 acres including 22,755 acres in San Mateo County by September 8; and

WHEREAS, on August 20, much of southern San Mateo County including Pescadero, San Gregorio and La Honda, along with more than 70,000 people in Santa Cruz County, were within mandatory evacuation areas; and

WHEREAS, many of these people did not have the time or resources to facilitate the evacuation of their animals; and

WHEREAS, the **San Mateo Large Animal Evacuation Group** is an all-volunteer group that activates when called upon by the San Mateo County Office of Emergency Services or other emergency county agencies; and

WHEREAS, it was asked by the County of San Mateo to assist with the evacuation of people's animals; and

WHEREAS, 198 volunteers facilitated the safe evacuation of 1,541 animals, including horses, cows, donkeys, goats, sheep, a camel, and other livestock; and

WHEREAS, they worked over 5,400 hours and driving over 4,500 miles to house the animals in safe locations including the Cow Palace, until they could be taken home; and

WHEREAS, the members of the San Mateo County Large Animal Evacuation Group were successful in saving the lives of over a thousand animals.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of San Mateo County hereby recognizes, commends, and is grateful to the members of the **San Mateo County Large Animal Evacuation Group** for their heroic effort to rescue large animals needing evacuation during the CZU Lightning Complex of August 2020.

Dated: November 17, 2020   SUPERVISORS:

_____
WARREN SLOCUM, PRESIDENT

_____
DAVE PINE

_____
CAROLE GROOM

_____
DON HORSLEY

_____
DAVID J. CANEPA

Attest: _____
Deputy Clerk of the Board of Supervisors