

*Before the Board of Supervisors in and for the
County of Monterey, State of California*

Resolution No:

Resolution recognizing and congratulating **Martha Karstens** upon _____)
her retirement after more than 40 years of service to the Big Sur community.....)

WHEREAS, in 1976, **Martha Karstens** took the first EMT class offered in Big Sur and became involved with the American Red Cross - Carmel Chapter Big Sur volunteer ambulance, having also completed auto extrication and cliff rescue courses; and

WHEREAS, in 1979, **Martha Karstens** became President of the Big Sur Ambulance, holding this position until 1991, when Measure A passed, and the County provided a full-time paid ambulance crew for Big Sur; and

WHEREAS, in 1980, **Martha Karstens** was a founding Race Committee member of the Big Sur River Run, an organization that has raised over \$1,100,000 for Big Sur emergency service organizations; and

WHEREAS, in 1986, **Martha Karstens** became an instructor for the Monterey County EMS agency for the First Responder program; and

WHEREAS, in 1988, **Martha Karstens** was awarded the Monterey County Carnation Community Service Award for recognition of her service during disasters in the Big Sur area; and

WHEREAS, in 1991, **Martha Karstens** joined the Big Sur Volunteer Fire Brigade, becoming its first Medical Battalion Chief and became an active Board member; and

WHEREAS, in 1994, **Martha Karstens** began as Administrator for the Big Sur Volunteer Fire Brigade, organizing and conducting the ongoing business and became a Duty Officer for the Brigade, responding to, and directing a wide range of incidents; and

WHEREAS, in 1997, **Martha Karstens** took the Volunteer Firefighter course, and shortly thereafter, obtained her Class B driver license enabling her to drive the Brigade's apparatus; and

WHEREAS, in 2000, **Martha Karstens** attended the MPC Fire Academy, becoming a California State Fire Marshal Certified Firefighter 1; and

WHEREAS, in 2002, **Martha Karstens** was elected to be the Administrative Assistant Chief of the Big Sur Volunteer Fire Brigade; and

WHEREAS, **Martha Karstens** was recognized by the Monterey County Fire Chiefs Association as Volunteer Firefighter of the Year in 2003 and again in 2013; and

WHEREAS, in 2009, **Martha Karstens** became Chief of the Big Sur Volunteer Fire Brigade, representing the Brigade in all large and small incidents, and outreach, locally and beyond; and

WHEREAS, in 2013, **Martha Karstens** lost her home during the Pfeiffer Fire, but continued as Incident Commander until a Unified Command was established; and

WHEREAS, **Martha Karstens** has responded personally to thousands of calls, both with the Big Sur Volunteer Ambulance, and the Big Sur Volunteer Fire Brigade, committing thousands of hours of her personal time as a volunteer in service to the Brigade, Big Sur, and Monterey County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Monterey County Board of Supervisors on behalf of the County and all citizens thereof, hereby recognize and congratulate **Martha Karstens** on her retirement and express our sincere thanks and appreciation for her tireless commitment to the Big Sur community and Monterey County.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this ____ day of ____, 2019, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

I, Valerie Ralph, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, State of California, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an original resolution of said Board of Supervisors duly made and entered in the minutes thereof of Minute Book _____ for the meeting on _____.

Dated:

Valerie Ralph, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Monterey, State of California

By _____
Deputy