

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

Resolution No.:

Adopt Resolution celebrating the **Big Sur River Inn's**)
80 years of welcoming visitors from around the world.....)

WHEREAS, Big Sur River Inn celebrates 80 years of welcoming visitors from around the world; weddings, anniversaries, birthdays, reunions, memorials and every day events continue to be celebrated each and every day at the **Big Sur River Inn**; and

WHEREAS, Big Sur River Inn's story began when Jay Pheneger acquired land from the federal government in 1888, and Barbara and Michael Pfeiffer purchased a parcel of land from Jay Pheneger, then in 1926, Michael and Barbara's son, John, took over the land on which the **Big Sur River Inn** now stands; his daughter Ellen Brown opened the original Inn in 1934; and

WHEREAS, lodging units were built to establish Big Sur's first resort and Ellen's famous apple pie, which is still on the menu today, gave the place its first name...Apple Pie Inn; and

WHEREAS, Ellen's mother Florence took over the Inn in 1937 as the paved Highway One between Carmel and San Simeon was completed, Ellen's house was moved to the west side of the road and was converted to a dining room and kitchen, gas pumps were installed and the name was changed to Redwood Camp; and

WHEREAS, in 1943, Florence's daughter, Esther Pfeiffer Ewoldson and husband Hans took over the operation. In Esther's own words..."the place was renamed '**The River Inn**' in hopes of keeping the river out...because in those days the river often rose up during winter storms to the level of the dining room door." Esther replaced her mother as Big Sur Postmaster and the Post Office was moved to the River Inn, and Hans built the General Store, added additional lodging units, rebuilt the dining room and constructed a small stream with a bridge over it that ran through the middle of the seating area; and ; and

WHEREAS, over the years as the business changed hands; the Crawford and then the Warcken families put their energy and skills into keeping up with the increasing tourism and popularity; and

WHEREAS, in 1988, Alan Perlmutter, his wife Nancy Sanders and a small group of friends purchased the **Big Sur River Inn** with the vision and mission to 'bring value to their guests, staff, community and partners' and the **Big Sur River Inn** has endured through fires, storms, and earthquakes, becoming the gathering place where locals and travelers alike flock for food, gasoline and companionship; and

WHEREAS, from its earliest days, entertainment has been a feature at the **Big Sur River Inn** with old friends and emerging musicians playing out on the deck, to the Big Sur Players began Dinner Theatre in 1989, Henry Miller's 100th Birthday in 1991 to "The Big Sur Natives", a local group of musicians and dancers became a River Inn tradition and legendary all along the California Coast; and

WHEREAS, the **Big Sur River Inn** is a beloved landmark in Big Sur and has become known as much for the "Chairs in the River" where guests renew their spirits as they sit and relax in the river as they are known for its commitment to the community by supporting organizations such as the Big Sur Volunteer Fire Brigade; Big Sur Health Center and Captain Cooper School; and

WHEREAS, the Pfeiffer's and the Ewoldson's started a tradition at the **Big Sur River Inn** of fine food, excellent service and warm hospitality which is continued today by the Perlmutter family and dedicated staff of more than fifty "River Innmates", who proudly celebrate 80 years of the wonderful life in Big Sur.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Monterey County Board of Supervisors, on behalf of the County and all citizens thereof, congratulates the **Big Sur River Inn** on the occasion of their 80th Anniversary.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this 28th day of October, 2014 by the following vote, to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

I, Gail T. Borkowski, 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 order of said Board Supervisors duly made and entered in the minutes thereof of Minute Book 77, for the meeting on October 28, 2014.

Dated: October 28, 2014

Gail T. Borkowski, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Monterey, State of California

By _____
Deputy