

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

Resolution No.

Adopt Resolution honoring **Lorri Koster**)
as a recipient of the National Steinbeck Center’s)
2014 Valley of the World Ag Leader Award.....)

WHEREAS, the Valley of the World Ag Leader Award was established to honor individuals who have performed outstanding personal, professional and civic achievements in our community and the agriculture industry; and

WHEREAS, **Lorri Koster** is Chairman/CEO and a primary shareholder of Mann Packing Company; certified as a women’s business enterprise through the Women’s Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC), the nation’s largest third party certifier of businesses owned and operated by women in the United States; and

WHEREAS, **Lorri Koster** was raised in the Ag Industry and is the third generation of her family to work in the produce business. She started her full time career at Mann Packing Company in 1990 directing the firm’s marketing and communications programs; and

WHEREAS, **Lorri Koster** left Mann Packing Company in 2000 to join ProduceOnLine.com as Vice President of marketing, resigning after their acquisition by World Commerce Online, Lorri accepted an Associate Publisher position with *Produce Business* magazine; and

WHEREAS, in 2006, after several years of writing, raising two boys and working for Mann Packing Company on a consulting basis, **Lorri Koster** returned to the Mann Packing Company to represent her family’s interest and lead the business development and marketing and innovation efforts; and

WHEREAS, **Lorri Koster** has participated on numerous committees for the Produce Marketing Association, the United Fresh Produce Association, Western Growers, and the Grower Shipper Association of Central California. She was a member of both the Board and Executive Committee of the Produce for Better Health Foundation. She is a past board member of PMA’s Foundation for Industry Talent and remains active in their fundraising efforts via the Joe Nucci Memorial Golf Tournament; and

WHEREAS, in 2000, **Lori Koster** was President of the Board of Directors of the International Fresh Cut Produce Association, being the first woman to chair an American Produce Trade Association. She is a past Chairman of the Grower Shipper Association of Central California where she became the second woman to hold the position and represented the first father-daughter and third generation chairmanship as her father was at the helm of the association in 1983 as was her great uncle, Art Sbrana, in 1936; and

WHEREAS, in 2005, **Lorri Koster** was named one of the industry’s top 40 produce professionals under the age of 40 by *Produce Business* magazine; in 2009, she was asked to keynote and was given an award of excellence at the United Fresh Produce Association’s Women in Produce event; in 2011, she was named one of the industry’s “Top 25” by trade publication THE PACKER; in 2011 *Progressive Grocer* magazine named her one of the top 100 Women in Grocery and in 2013, THE PACKER named her Produce Marketer of the Year, making her a second generation recipient as her father earned the distinction in 1983; and

WHEREAS, **Lorri Koster** currently serves as board alternate for the California Leafy Greens Marketing Agreement, Secretary/Treasurer of the United Fresh Produce Association and is also a member of their nutrition council where she supports the Let’s Move Salad Bars to Schools Campaign; and

WHEREAS, **Lorri Koster**’s local level achievements include; graduate of Leadership Salinas Valley; Outstanding Young Farmer by the Salinas Jaycees in 1994 and Outstanding Young Citizen in 2005; 2006

Outstanding Young Californian by the California Junior Chamber of Commerce, and Ag Woman of the Year by Ag Against Hunger; and

WHEREAS, Lorri Koster is co-chair of Monterey County’s Economic Development Committee; trustee at the Panetta Institute for Public Policy; serves on the board of the Monterey County’s Hospice Foundation; member of the Business Advisory Council for Rancho Cielo Youth Campus and serves on the board of the First Tee Program for Monterey County; and

WHEREAS, Lorri Koster is a “baseball mom” and a “Forty Niner Faithful”. She resides in Salinas and is supported in her many endeavors by her husband Tom and her sons, Jack and Sam.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Monterey County Board of Supervisors and all citizens thereof hereby congratulates **Lorri Koster** as recipient of the National Steinbeck Center’s 2014 Valley of the World Ag Leader Award and wishes her continued peace and happiness in all her future endeavors.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this _____ day of _____, 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 _____, for the meeting on _____.

Dated:

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

By _____
Deputy