**Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**A Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Siskiyou,**

**State of California, Directing Staff to Issue a Notice of Non-Renewal for Certain Williamson Act Contracts**

**Whereas**, the California Land Conservation Act (the “Williamson Act”) was enacted on July 14, 1965 to implement a variety of state farmland preservation policies directed at discouraging the unnecessary and premature conversion of farmland to other uses; and

**Whereas**, over the past 40 years, the County of Siskiyou (“County”) has embraced and vigorously implemented the state farmland preservation policies set forth in the Act; and

 **Whereas**, over 415,000 acres in the County are presently conserved by voluntary County and landowner participation in approximately 464 Williamson Act contracts involving approximately 2,566 assessor parcel numbers; and

 **Whereas**, the County has been administering its Williamson Act program including monitoring compliance with the terms of each contract in accordance with the adopted Rules for the Establishment and Administration of Agricultural Preserves and Williamson Act Contracts as adopted on February 7, 2012, and updated on September 15, 2020; and

**Whereas**, pursuant to the terms on the County’s adopted universal contract and State law each contract holder is required to be engaged in a commercial agricultural use; and

**Whereas**, in July of 2021, it was determined that properties under seven contracts were being considered for issuance of notice of non-renewal and that it was in the best interest of the County’s Williamson Act program to recommend to the Board of Supervisors that the contracts for these properties not be renewed beginning in 2022; and

**Whereas**, the Board of Supervisors desires to issue a notice of non-renewal for the seven contracts set forth in Exhibit A-1; and

**Whereas**, on September 7, 2021, the Agricultural Preserve Administrator also recommended to the Board of Supervisors that staff continue its compliance efforts and any other contracts which staff determines are likely not meeting the intention of the terms of the County’s Williamson Act program and their applicable Williamson Act contract(s) be brought back before the Board of Supervisors in 2022 for review and possible notice of non-renewal.

 **Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved** the Board of Supervisors hereby resolves as follows:

1. That the Board of Supervisors has conducted a public hearing at which time it has considered all information presented to it and the recommendation of County staff and the Agricultural Preserve Administrator.
2. That the properties and Williamson Act contracts set forth in Exhibit A-1, referenced hereto and incorporated herein, are recommended for issuance of notice of non-renewal by the Agricultural Preserve Administrator are not meeting the intentions the County’s Williamson Act program and the terms of their contracts.
3. That it is the desire of the Board of Supervisors not to renew the Williamson Act contracts for those properties set forth in Exhibit A-1, referenced hereto and incorporated herein, with or without cause, pursuant to Government Code 51245 and that said contracts not be renewed therefor.
4. That staff be directed to file a notice of non-renewal, substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A-2, referenced hereto and incorporated herein, pursuant to Government Code Section 51245 for the properties that the Board has determined to be non-compliant to prevent said properties’ contracts from being renewed at the earliest possible time.
5. That the Board of Supervisors determine the issuance of a Notice of Non-Renewal of a Williamson Act contract is categorically exempt under the General Rule, Section 15061(b)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines, as this action would not cause a change in use and no change to the property’s underlining zoning would occur as required by Government Code Section 51246(a).
6. That staff be directed to continue its review of Williamson Act contract compliance and that staff bring to the Agricultural Preserve Administrator any additional contracts for their review and recommendation to the Board of Supervisors in 2022 to consider additional properties that should be considered for non-renewed from the County’s Williamson Act program.
7. That County staff are authorized to take such necessary and further actions as are appropriate to implement this Resolution and carry out the intent of the Board of Supervisors.

Passed and Adopted this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2021 at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors by the following vote:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Abstain:

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Ray A. Haupt, Chair

Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors

Attest:

Laura Bynum, Clerk,

Board of Supervisors

By \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Deputy