**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 Properties Under Williamson Act Contract** **No.** **78019**

**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 510 Williamson Act contracts involving approximately 2,600 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 amended on December 13, 2022; and

**Whereas**, at a Public Hearing held on September 7, 2021 in a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors, the Agricultural Preserve Administrator recommended to the Board 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 for review and possible notice of non-renewal.

**Whereas**, pursuant to the County’s adopted guidelines, when only a portion of a contract is sold, the owner must apply for their own contract. Should the board not approve the new contract, the existing contract shall be issued a notice of non-renewal; and

**Whereas**, the Wildlands Conservancy purchased a portion of Contract 78019, applied for their own contract and this request was not approved on September 5, 2023; and

**Whereas**, pursuant to Section V of the County Rules for the Establishment and Administration of Agricultural Preserves and Williamson Act Contracts, a 60-day notice was sent to the property owners of record for each parcel under contract No. 78019 providing they could apply for their own contract; and

**Whereas**, in December 2023 it was determined that properties under Contract No. 78019 which the owners had not applied for their own contract or requested an extension to do so, 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 2025; and

**Whereas**, the Board of Supervisors desires to issue a notice of non-renewal for properties under Williamson Act Contract No. 78019 as recorded at Vol. 807, Page 872 in the Official Records of Siskiyou county; and

 **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 parcels under Williamson Act contracts No. 78019set forth in Exhibit A-1, referenced hereto and incorporated herein, are recommended for issuance of a notice of non-renewal by the Agricultural Preserve Administrator for not meeting the intentions the County’s Williamson Act program and the terms of the contract.
3. That it is the desire of the Board of Supervisors not to renew the parcels under Williamson Act contracts 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 Class 17 exemption, Section 15317 of the CEQA Guidelines, as this action would not cause a change in use and the contract shall remain in effect for the balance of the period remaining since the last renewal 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 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 2nd day of January 2024 at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors by the following vote:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Abstain:

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Ed Valenzuela, Chair

Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors

Attest:

Laura Bynum, Clerk,

Board of Supervisors

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

Deputy