

## COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE 30<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE MONTECITO EMERGENCY RESPONSE & RECOVERY ACTION GROUP (MERRAG)

WHEREAS, the Montecito Emergency Response & Recovery Action Group (MERRAG) became a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt non-profit public benefit corporation, sponsored by the three Special Districts in Montecito – the Montecito Fire Protection District, Montecito Sanitary District and Montecito Water District; an

WHEREAS, prior to their formation as a 501(c)(3), MERRAG served the community since 1987 as a mutual "self-help" organization under the guidance of the three Special Districts; and

WHEREAS, MERRAG utilizes the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) curriculum to create a network of trained volunteers who work and live the Montecito area and are prepared to respond to a community disaster during the critical first 72 hours following an event; and

WHEREAS, MERRAG supports the three Special Districts in its response to life threatening situations, coordinate support activities with outside emergency services, maintain a reliable private radio network and pager communication system, assist with community damage assessment, and muster and organize local resources; and

WHEREAS, in the event of a community emergency, MERRAG co-operates the fire department's District Operations Center with staffing, supplementary radio communications, and field support including triage, traffic management, and damage assessment; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors, do hereby recognize the Montecito Emergency Response & Recovery Action Group (MERRAG) on its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt non-profit public benefit corporation.

Passed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California this 19th day of September 2023.

Supervisor - 1st District

Supervisor - 2nd District

Supervisor - 3rd District

Supervisor - 4th District

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board