



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION HONORING CATHY FISHER UPON HER RETIREMENT FROM THE COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

WHEREAS, Cathy Fisher served as the Agriculture Commissioner/Director of Weights and Measures for Santa Barbara County for the past 12 years, coming to the County from Contra Costa County where she began her career in 1988 as an agriculture biologist trainee. She went into the position as Agriculture Commissioner when agriculture production in Santa Barbara County was valued at \$1.2 billion and with her leadership agriculture commodities increased to \$1.9 billion; and,

WHEREAS, Cathy is known for her responsiveness to the public, willingness to engage with others on issues of agriculture and develop and mobilize solutions to help the community, all while having a calm and respectful attitude. She has provided outstanding and proactive leadership to the County, its businesses and residents, bringing together diverse stakeholders to address complex and challenging issues, while having the unique ability of maintaining the balance of being a regulator and protecting agriculture; and

WHEREAS, Cathy brought the first detector dog to the County's Agriculture department, a first line of defense against detrimental pests to agriculture from entering our County. She was also instrumental in authoring and presenting the Santa Barbara County Hemp Ordinance to the Board of Supervisors with the intent to regulate the cultivation of hemp within the unincorporated area of the County to promote agricultural diversification while protecting the environment, public safety and welfare of the County; and

WHEREAS, Cathy has been very supportive of her staff, giving them opportunities to participate in trainings and move up in the County, exceeding the County's goal of retaining 80% of new employees during their first five years of County employment; and

WHEREAS, Cathy went above and beyond the call of duty helping create the Santa Barbara County Ag Pass Program so farmers, ranchers and their key employees could access agricultural properties that were located in the fire danger zones, working with law enforcement to open up access to nurseries and farms, saving hundreds of thousands of dollars in agriculture because of Cathy's quick action; and

WHEREAS, Cathy's tireless energy, enthusiasm, empathy and efforts to keep the agriculture community apprised of the latest health issues pertaining to COVID and the ever-changing requirements from the State, keeping the owners of agriculture industries and their workers safe, so they could continue the job of providing food for us all, even through the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Cathy has earned a happy retirement to enjoy trail riding and camping with her horse, Lady, and gardening in her beautiful rose garden.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors honors Cathy Fisher for her years of dedicated service to the citizens of Santa Barbara County and congratulates her upon her retirement.

Passed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California this fourteenth day of February, 2023 by a unanimous vote of all members present.



Monroe Negrete
Clerk of the Board

ATTEST:

[Signature]
Supervisor - 1st District

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Supervisor - 2nd District

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Supervisor - 3rd District

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Supervisor - 4th District

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Supervisor - 5th District