



County of Sonoma

State of California

Date: July 8, 2025

Item Number: _____

Resolution Number: _____

4/5 Vote Required

Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Sonoma, State of California,

Honoring and Congratulating Dr. Stephanie Larson,

Friend of Sonoma County Farm Bureau 2025

Whereas, Sonoma County Farm Bureau was established in 1917 with the mission of uniting voices to protect agriculture in Sonoma County for future generations; and

Whereas, the annual Sonoma County Farm Bureau Love of the Land is a mid-summer celebration honoring agricultural award winners who are leading the way to preserve Sonoma County's rich farming heritage; and

Whereas, Dr. Stephanie Larson spent more than 40 years working for UC Cooperative Extension (UCCE) to address opportunities and issues that Sonoma County and California ranchers face in their agricultural businesses.; and

Whereas, Dr. Larson retired from UCCE in 2024, however, she continues her advocacy during a pivotal time in public connection to agriculture systems. She applies her 40 years of knowledge to help educate and advocate for Sonoma County agriculture and the stewards of the land; and

Whereas, following the 2017 Firestorms and emergencies, Dr. Larson led efforts to educate the public on the importance of managed parcels of land, both small- and large-scale. Her work has gravitated toward two land management practices for the long-term sustainability of forest and rangelands: grazing and prescribed burning; and

Whereas, she has led two educational and research-based efforts utilizing grazing and fire on working lands: Match.Graze, an online platform to assist livestock grazers in finding lands to graze and landowners, with no livestock, in finding animals to reduce vegetation; and a geospatial web application to assist local landowners and managers prioritize and plan fuels reduction activities; and

Whereas, Dr. Larson’s passion for her community is evident not only through her sustainability efforts, but also through humanitarian efforts. Dr. Larson, joined with ranchers Cheryl LaFranchi and Dr. Frank Mongini to develop the Range-to-Table program which annually donates 20,000 pounds of ground beef to the Redwood Empire Food Bank to feed those in need; and

Whereas, in retirement, she continues to work on her signature work – range land management, teach classes in agriculture at the Santa Rosa Junior College, as well as, work on initiatives alongside the Sonoma County Farm Bureau; and

Whereas, Dr. Larson has been a staunch supporter of the Sonoma County 4-H program, which is under the direction of the University of California Cooperative Extension and supports future leaders and future land stewards.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors does hereby honor and congratulate Dr. Stephanie Larson, the Sonoma County Farm Bureau 2025 Friend of Farm Bureau.

Supervisors:

Hermosillo:

Rabbitt:

Coursey:

Gore:

Hopkins:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Abstain:

So Ordered.