



County of Sonoma

State of California

Date: August 1, 2025

Item Number: _____

Resolution Number: _____

4/5 Vote Required

**Resolution of The Board of Supervisors of The County of Sonoma, State of California,
Recognizing and Honoring Brian and Karin Gilardi**

2025 Sonoma County Fair Outstanding Persons in Agriculture

Whereas, growing up on 25 acres in Petaluma, Brian Gilardi was surrounded by agriculture, but despite his father having grown up on a dairy in Point Reyes, neither of his parents worked in agriculture; and

Whereas, when Brian took a summer job in high school working on hay ranch on Lakeville Highway, he couldn't have guessed that it would end up being his career and his future family business; and

Whereas, after high school, Brian attended Santa Rosa Jr College before transferring to Chico State University earning a degree in Ag Business. It was there that he met his wife, Karin, who was majoring in Agriculture Law and Policy Development. Karin grew up in Galt, near Sacramento. Her parents were agriculture teachers; and

Whereas, in 2008, Brian and Karin returned to Sonoma County and were married in 2010. Brian went to work at Jacobsen Ranches and became a partner in the business in 2012; and

Whereas, in 2018, without a family member to take the reins, Craig Jacobsen sold the business to Brian and Karin Gilardi. "It's kind of a third-generation, non-family, family farm," said Brian, noting that Jacobsen had purchased the ranch under similar circumstances; and

Whereas, Brian and Karin farm about 3,400 acres of hay through southern Sonoma County and down into Marin. They grow both organic and conventional hay as well as organic silage and have a small seed mill on property where they process seed for themselves and a few neighbors. Most of the product stays within Sonoma and Marin Counties with the majority of the organic feed going to local dairies. The Gilardi's also maintain a flock of 350 sheep; and

Whereas, as neighboring farmers have retired, the Gilardi's have picked up management of additional ranches, ensuring that their business can continue to meet the demand of local farms. That includes their own property where they have around 350 sheep.

Whereas, when they aren't working, the Gilardi's keep busy with their three children, who are all active in 4H, raising meat rabbits and beef cattle. They enjoy hunting, fishing and camping as a family when they are able to get away; and

Whereas, the Gilardi's are proud to be contributing to local food production, where animal businesses can get feed that is grown locally in Sonoma County.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors does hereby honor and congratulate Brian and Karin Gilardi, the Sonoma County Fair 2025 Outstanding Persons in Agriculture.

Supervisors:

Hermosillo: Rabbitt: Coursey: Gore: Hopkins:

Ayes: Noes: Absent: Abstain:

So Ordered.