



County of Sonoma

State of California

Date: September 14, 2021

Item Number: _____

Resolution Number: _____



4/5 Vote Required

**Resolution of the Board of Supervisors, County of Sonoma, State of California, Congratulate
Walter J. Ryan, Jr. for his years of Service and his Retirement from the Sonoma Resource
Conservation District**

WHEREAS, Walt Ryan has dedicated 16 years of volunteer service as a Director with the Sonoma Resource Conservation District and has been a resource for Board and staff, sharing his wealth of first-hand knowledge about land management, as well as his experience working in water supply; and

WHEREAS, He studied Agricultural Engineering at CalPoly San Luis Obispo and spent his career serving local communities through work in water supply and is a true conservationist at heart managing his own family 805-acre cattle ranch with a gentle touch and minimal external inputs; and

WHEREAS, Whether providing detailed review of financial reports or insightful feedback on policies, dropping by the office to offer a warm hello and a perhaps a wry joke, or asking tough questions that made projects and programs better, Walt contributed in countless ways to the Resource Conservation District's success; and

WHEREAS, He has consistently guided the Resource Conservation District to maintain fiscal prudence in order to carry out its mission now and in the future and provided a strong voice encouraging the Resource Conservation District to work in partnership with landowners, leveraging their knowledge of their own land to make the best conservation decisions; and

WHEREAS, Walt served as Board Chair from 2016-2017, leading the Resource Conservation District through a tumultuous time during which his genuine caring for staff and commitment to the organization always shone through and served as the Resource Conservation District's representative on the inaugural board of the Santa Rosa Plain Groundwater Sustainability Agency; and

WHEREAS, Walt's community service has extended beyond the Resource Conservation District to include past service with Santa Rosa High School Ag Boosters, Santa Rosa High School Foundation Board, and Boy Scouts of America; and

WHEREAS, Walt is a devoted family man, loving husband to Joan, exemplary father to their two children, and fun grandfather to their two grandchildren.

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Sonoma do hereby Congratulate Walter J. Ryan, Jr. for his years of Service and his Retirement from the Sonoma Resource Conservation District.

Supervisors:

Gorin: Rabbitt: Coursey: Gore: Hopkins:

Ayes: Noes: Absent: Abstain:

So Ordered.