HONORING VOLUNTEERS ASSISTING
THE SANTA CRUZ COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER
DURING THE 2020 CZU FIRE

WHEREAS, during the CZU FIRE of 2020, aided by legions of volunteers, Santa Cruz County Animal Shelter (SCCAS) oversaw the care of over 4,500 animals at the Shelter’s facilities, at the County Fairgrounds, in foster homes, and with on-site fire zone visits; and

WHEREAS, the vast scope of emergency rescue and care of homeless and displaced animals are fundamentally dependent upon the efforts and skills of our volunteer partners; and

WHEREAS, our volunteer partner Equine Evacuation of Santa Cruz County rescued, transported and saved the lives of hundreds of animals left behind in evacuated areas, assisted Animal Control Officers by returning multiple times to fire zones to provide food and water for thousands of livestock, chickens, outside cats and fish left behind; and

WHEREAS, SCCAS volunteers fostered Shelter animals in their homes opening up precious space in the Shelter for incoming displaced animals, assisted Shelter staff with daily care of approximately 500 animals at the Shelter and approximately 2,000 animals at the Fairgrounds, delivered pet supplies to evacuation centers: and

WHEREAS, the community’s kindness, generosity and compassion was shown through donating tons of supplies, providing pro bono veterinary services, delivering free meals to Shelter staff and volunteers, opening pasture space at private ranches and properties to prevent Fairground over-capacity; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to publicly recognize the outpouring of volunteer and community help, level of skill and commitment demonstrated by the SCCAS volunteers, Equine Evacuation of Santa Cruz County volunteers, and community members, and celebrate their dedication and effort towards saving lives and serving their community.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, The Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors, hereby recognize, commend and thank the volunteer partners of the Santa Cruz County Animal Shelter for their ceaseless energy and effort towards saving and caring for the most vulnerable animals in our community and maintaining the invaluable human-animal bond.