

STATE OF COLORADO)
) ss.
COUNTY OF ELBERT)

At a regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of Elbert County, State of Colorado, held at the Elbert County Fairgrounds (Agriculture Building) in Kiowa, Colorado 80117 on Wednesday, the 10th day of March 2021, there were present:

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| Chris Richardson | County Commissioner, Chairman |
| Rick Pettitt | County Commissioner |
| Grant Thayer | County Commissioner |
| Amanda Moore | Deputy Clerk to the Board |

When the following proceedings, among others, were had and done, to wit:

RESOLUTION 21-13
RECOGNIZING THE MANY PAST AND CURRENT CONTRIBUTIONS OF ELBERT COUNTY CATTLEMEN AND OTHER LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS AND SUPPORTING THE LOCAL RANCHING INDUSTRY

WHEREAS, the Governor of Colorado has proclaimed a boycott of meat products, referred to as a “MeatOut” - in order to encourage meatless diets as promoted by the *Farm Animal Rights Movement* (FARM), to be observed by Coloradans on March 20, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Governor’s “MeatOut” proclamation erroneously states that eating meat is unhealthy, causes environmental damage and pollution, and supports animal abuse; and

WHEREAS, animal use is not animal abuse and by financial necessity and natural inclination, livestock producers care for their animals as much as is humanly possible; and

WHEREAS, Elbert County ranchers have been repeatedly recognized for their environmental stewardship by the USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service; and

WHEREAS, the 2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines issued by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration recognizes that a variety of animal and plant proteins is important to a healthy diet; and

WHEREAS, cattle and other livestock are an extremely efficient means of converting dryland pasture grass to dietary proteins that are an important part of our citizen’s diets; and

WHEREAS, cattle and other livestock production has historically been, and continues to be, one of the key economic drivers in Elbert County; and

WHEREAS, Elbert County Cattleman and our ranching families are part of a \$4.2B state industry with a \$40B economic impact and accounts for 10% of the states total export sales; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Department of Agriculture reports (2017) the annual sale value of Elbert County cattle, calves, poultry, and hogs exceeds \$26M; and

WHEREAS, employment in the agriculture sector and related industries provides jobs to over one-thousand Elbert County citizens, a very large number of which are involved in ranching and livestock production; and

WHEREAS, Elbert County is a declared “Right to Farm” county and has taken regulatory steps to protect our active farms and ranches; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado General Assembly is considering passage of Senate Bill 21-079 which concerns deregulation of direct to customer meat sales in support of ranch to table private enterprise.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE ELBERT COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ELBERT COUNTY, COLORADO expresses their extreme disappointment that the Governor of Colorado would call for a boycott, even of one-day duration, of an industry that is key and essential to both our local and state economy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, declares its support for our cattlemen and other livestock producers and proclaims March 20, 2021 as Elbert County Cattlemen’s Day; and

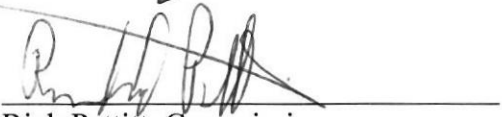
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all citizens of Elbert County are encouraged to include animal proteins as part of a healthy, well-balanced diet on March 20, 2021 and every day; and

FINALLY, SHALL IT BE RESOLVED, that this Commission supports Senate Bill 21-079 concerning deregulation of direct to customer meat sales in support of ranch to table private enterprise and all other legislative actions that support strengthening Colorado agriculture.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 10th day of March, 2021.

Upon a Motion duly made and seconded, the foregoing resolution was adopted by the following vote:


Chris Richardson, Commissioner AYE


Rick Pettitt, Commissioner AYE


Grant Thayer, Commissioner AYE

ATTEST: DALLAS SCHROEDER
COUNTY CLERK

BY: Amandawmoore
DEPUTY CLERK TO THE BOARD – Amanda Moore

