COMMENDING THE WEST MARIN DISASTER COUNCIL AND VOLUNTEERS

WHEREAS, the County of Marin is exposed to a wide variety of potentially devastating emergencies; and

WHEREAS, the Marin County Board of Supervisors recognizes the importance of partnering with our communities and grass roots organizations to provide critical support services and information during the initial hours of an emergency; and

WHEREAS, isolation and a need to be self-reliant have stimulated the residents of 16 communities in West Marin to help each other whenever possible; and

WHEREAS, the West Marin Disaster Council (WMDC), and their volunteers, is a coalition of West Marin disaster response agencies brought together to organize services and information; and

WHEREAS, the WMDC is made up of 60 representatives from 4 fire departments, Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) graduates, 12 neighborhood volunteer disaster councils, 6 parks at the County, State and Federal levels, the Marin Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services, the Red Cross, the US Coast Guard, KWMR Community Radio, RACES and the WMDC Radio System; and

WHEREAS, the WMDC representatives meet and communicate regularly to share disaster response skills and experiences and stay informed about current response plans and programs; and

WHEREAS, the WMDC teams with KWMR to maintain an Emergency Radio System and conducts radio trainings for West Marin neighborhood Disaster Councils; and

WHEREAS, WMDC member agencies, community Disaster Council volunteers, and CERT graduates work together to provide disaster response support to the following communities in 300 square miles of varied terrain in West Marin: Muir Beach, Stinson Beach, Bolinas, Dogtown, Olema, Inverness Park, Inverness, Point Reyes Station, Marshall, Tomales, Dillon Beach, Forest Knolls, Lagunitas, San Geronimo, Woodacre, Nicasio; and

WHEREAS, the areas served consist of heavily forested ridges, oak woodlands, grasslands, coastal scrub, ocean beaches, cliffs, numerous creeks and reservoirs and an extensive trail system serving millions of visitors annually; and

WHEREAS, professional disaster responders and 911 systems will be committed to the most critical situations when a regional disaster occurs in West Marin; and

WHEREAS, neighborhood disaster council members and Community Emergency Response Team volunteers are essential resources for support during initial response and recovery from effects of a disaster in West Marin; and

WHEREAS, volunteer disaster councils and CERT members are fundamental to the well-being and safety of community members and visitors to West Marin.

NOW, THERFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Marin County Board of Supervisors recognizes the West Marin Disaster Council and their partners who will respond when called upon during an emergency and thanks them for their commitment to the safety of all people who might find themselves in West Marin on a day a disaster hits our peaceful and scenic landscape.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin held this 19^{TH} day of April 2016.

STEVE KINSEY -- SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT 4 - PRESIDENT

