

PROCLAMATION
OF THE
MENDOCINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
RECOGNIZING
The Mendocino County Farm Bureau's
Centennial Celebration

WHEREAS, in 1862 the federal government passed the Morrill Act that granted eligible states acres of land to establish institutes of learning. Historically, land-grant universities were an innovative way of supporting the country through economic growth in key fields like agriculture, science and engineering. After the passage of the Morrill Act at least one land-grant institution was established in every state and the District of Columbia. In 1914 the Smith-Lever Act passed, providing federal support for land-grant institutions to offer instruction beyond their campuses through Cooperative Extension efforts in agriculture and home economics; and

WHEREAS, Mendocino County farmers in 1917 recognized the value of bringing an Agricultural Extension Service into the county and began the process of forming an organization as an official Farm Bureau needed to be organized prior to a county petitioning for a U.C. Farm Advisor position; and

WHEREAS, signatures of 271 farmers out of the 1365 residing in Mendocino County needed to be obtained before the matter could be presented before the Board of Supervisors. Meetings were held throughout Mendocino County and as a result an active campaign began in October 1917; and

WHEREAS, Redwood Valley was the first to form a Farm Bureau center by obtaining 40 signatures for their roll. Redwood Valley's effort was followed closely by Ukiah, Potter Valley, Willits and Fort Bragg. A petition of 280 signatures from these districts was presented to the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors at the December 10, 1917 meeting along with the unanimous support from Anderson Valley which had just held their first discussion on the subject; and

WHEREAS, with the approval of the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors in December 1917, the Farm Bureau was officially recognized that allowed the first U.C. Farm Advisor for Mendocino County to enter the county in January 1918. The first meeting of the Mendocino County Farm Bureau took place in February of 1918 where the bylaws were written and officers were elected.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mendocino hereby recognizes the Centennial Celebration of the Mendocino County Farm Bureau along with their work to preserve and promote agriculture over the last 100 years in Mendocino County.

Dated:

Dan Hamburg, Chair