

Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

RESOLUTION

in honor of

SHANE WILSON

WHEREAS, Shane Wilson was born on June 6, 1972, attended Rio Dell Elementary School, and graduated from Fortuna High School in 1990; and

WHEREAS, during his youth, Shane demonstrated a strong work ethic by working at his grandparents' business, E&J Liquors in Rio Dell, throughout his high school years, while also beginning a lifelong commitment to community service by coaching Little League baseball; and

WHEREAS, Shane married Lisa Wilson in 1995, established his family home in Rio Dell, together Lisa and Shane built a family while they served their community including raising their daughter Jaeden and grieving the unimaginable loss of their son, Broddie; and

WHEREAS, on June 6, 1996, Shane joined the Rio Dell Volunteer Fire Department and quickly developed an extraordinary passion for the fire service, dedicating countless hours to learning, training, and serving the community with professionalism, courage, and commitment; and

WHEREAS, Shane's dedication to public service earned him recognition as Firefighter of the Year in 2000, and in April 2005 he was elected Fire Chief of the Rio Dell Volunteer Fire Department, a position he faithfully held through his retirement in 2026; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure as Fire Chief, Shane strengthened community partnerships, enhanced emergency response capabilities, and fostered greater cooperation and communication among local fire departments, leaving a lasting impact on public safety throughout the region; and

WHEREAS, Shane's service has been marked by extraordinary acts of bravery, including the rescue of a trapped resident from a burning home during a Wildwood Days event, placing his own safety at risk to save the life of another; and

WHEREAS, Shane has been instrumental in coordinating Wildwood Days since 1998, helping transform the event into a successful community tradition and an important fundraiser supporting the Rio Dell Volunteer Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his service and leadership, Shane received the Rio Dell Chamber of Commerce Individual of the Year Award in 2005 and the American Legion Firefighter Certificate of Commendation on September 7, 2017, for outstanding public service benefiting the community, state, and nation; and

WHEREAS, beyond his fire service, Shane dedicated countless hours to mentoring local youth through baseball, coaching with the Scotia-Rio Dell Babe Ruth Association for ten years, American Legion Baseball, and Fortuna High School baseball programs; and

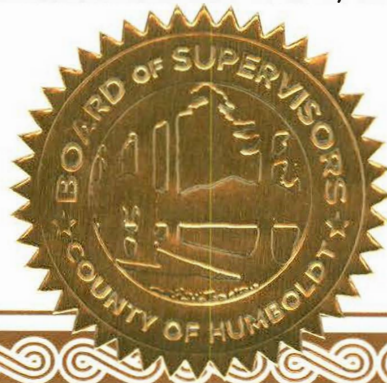
WHEREAS, Shane's commitment to his community has earned him lasting recognition, including placement on the Rio Dell School Wall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, throughout a distinguished career that included employment with North Coast Fabricators, Pacific Lumber Company, Caltrans, and service as a State Fire Marshal with CAL FIRE, Shane remained steadfast in his devotion to the people of Rio Dell and the fire service profession; and

WHEREAS, throughout his thirty years of service, Shane Wilson exemplified selflessness, courage, leadership, and an unwavering commitment to the Rio Dell Volunteer Fire Department, the men and women serving under his tenure and the community he proudly served, leaving behind a legacy that will continue to inspire future generations of firefighters and community leaders.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, HUMBOLDT COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HONOR Shane Wilson upon his retirement as Fire Chief of the Rio Dell Volunteer Fire Department and extend our deepest appreciation for thirty years of extraordinary service, leadership, sacrifice, and dedication. We acknowledge the countless hours spent away from family, the emergencies answered without hesitation, the lives protected, and the quiet acts of service performed without recognition. Through his unwavering commitment, courage, and compassion, Shane has helped shape not only a stronger Fire Department, but a stronger community. As he begins this well-earned next chapter, we offer our heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to Shane, Lisa, and their family, and express our sincere gratitude for a lifetime of service that has left an enduring mark on Rio Dell and Humboldt County that will continue to inspire generations to come.

June 6, 2026



Mike Wilson, Chair