

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF LAKE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT IN SUPPORT OF A LANDOWNER SEEKING TO NAME AN
UNNAMED GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURE LOCATED SOLELY WITHIN THE
LANDOWNER'S PRIVATE PROPERTY

WHEREAS, Gregory Van Oss is the owner of a certain parcel of real property located in Middletown, California, and designated as Assessor's Parcel No. 014-140-11, which contains a hill which Mr. Van Oss wishes to formally name; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Van Oss' home sits on top of a hill which lies within a portion of Lot 17 of the Adams Subdivision of the Piner Ranch (hereinafter, the "Hill"); and

WHEREAS, the United States Board on Geographic Names (hereinafter, the "Board"), composed of representatives of Cabinet-level departments, is the entity which approves and standardizes geographic names world-wide for the federal government; and

WHEREAS, the Board includes a Domestic Names Committee which approves and standardizes geographic names within the United States; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Van Oss would like to apply to said Board so that the Hill on his property may be officially recognized by the federal government by the designation he has chosen; and

WHEREAS, by such recognition Mr. Van Oss does not and shall not request that the Hill be designated as a site where United States Mail or any other federal service shall be obtained; and

WHEREAS, the Board operates according to specified criteria which includes, but is not limited to, the requirements that any commemorative name or nickname must be intended to honor a person deceased for at least five years and should have some association with the geographic feature or area, and no designation may include derogatory and/or offensive names; and

WHEREAS, the name selected by Mr. Van Oss for the Hill is Benny Hill, which is intended by him to be a respectful salute to a celebrity, long-deceased, whose talents he enjoyed; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors recognizes that the designation selected by this property owner may appear whimsical at best, but the Board of Supervisors supports the desire of any Lake County property owner to seek recognition for a name selected by said property owner for a geographic feature on his/her property which is neither derogatory nor offensive and which has no negative consequence or effect to his neighboring property owners and/or community.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors, County of Lake, State of California, that it finds, determines and hereby declares that:

1. That the Recitals hereinabove are adopted as true and correct.
2. That the Board of Supervisors supports the ability of a real property owner in Lake County to seek federal approval to designate geographic features located within the boundaries of his/her property, to the extent any such designation is not derogatory nor offensive and will not negatively impact neighbors and/or the surrounding community.
3. That by offering this Resolution, neither the Board of Supervisors nor the County of Lake shall assume responsibility for any further actions to secure the approval Mr. Van Oss seeks and neither the Board of Supervisors and/or the County of Lake has reviewed and/or confirmed that Mr. Van Oss has met the criteria required to secure the approval of United States Board on Geographic Names.

THIS RESOLUTION was passed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Lake at a regular meeting thereof on the _____ day of _____, 2019, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT OR NOT VOTING:

CHAIR, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST: Carol J. Huchingson
Clerk to the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
Anita L. Grant
County Counsel

