MARIPOSA COUNTY RESOLUTION NO. 04-01

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE POTENTIAL CLOSURE OF THE MT. BULLION YOUTH AUTHORITY CAMP

WHEREAS, the California Department of Youth Authority houses youthful offenders at its Mt. Bullion Camp in Mariposa County; and

WHEREAS, due to declining ward population and to assist in alleviating the State budget deficit, the Department of Youth Authority is considering removal of their wards from the Mt. Bullion Camp; and

WHEREAS, the removal of these wards from the Mt. Bullion Camp could result in their institutionalization and replacement at the Camp by adult offenders; and

WHEREAS, placement of these wards in an institutional setting could have a serious detrimental affect on their rehabilitation; and

WHEREAS, these wards have provided numerous services which benefit not only the community but also serve as beneficial rehabilitation programs, such as anti-drug and alcohol abuse presentations at local schools, assistance to the elderly in the form of yard work, firewood supplies, and other needed tasks; and

WHEREAS, the primary role of these wards has been as an essential responder for fire emergencies not only in this County but throughout the State; they recently contributed to the containment of the Hunter 9 Fire, which burned 641 acres of Mariposa property; and

WHEREAS, from January through September 2003, over 51,500 hours valued at $330,000 were spent by these wards assisting state and local agencies in public works projects; and

WHEREAS, the Youth Authority staff at the Mt. Bullion Camp would be relocated to other areas and replaced with a reduced Department of Corrections staff, which combined with the loss of the wards’ community service work hours would gravely affect the economy of Mariposa County.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors expresses its strong opposition to the removal of the wards from the Mt. Bullion Camp by the California Department of Youth Authority.
PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors, a political subdivision of the State of California, this 6th day of January 2004, by the following vote:

AYES: Stetson, Balmain, Bibby, Parker, Pickard
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: NONE
ABSTAINED: NONE

GARRY R. PARKER, Chairman

ATTEST:
by: Rachel Petty, Deputy

MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

THOMAS P. GUARINO, County Counsel
January 6, 2004

Honorable Governor Schwarzenegger
State Capitol
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

Attached is Resolution 04-01 that was unanimously adopted today by the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors opposing the possible closure of the Mt. Bullion California Youth Authority Camp located in Mariposa County. The Camp is an intricate part of the County and in addition to providing fire suppression services also provides essential community services, especially to our seniors, and local school and youth programs. Most importantly, the Camp has the enthusiastic support of our local citizens and is a welcomed component of our county. Mariposa County had previously adopted resolutions opposing the closure of the Camp in 1990 and in 1992, and this Resolution reaffirms the County’s strong support of maintaining the Camp.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

GARRY R. PARKER
Chairman

GRP/mbh

cc: Senator Poochigian
    Assembly Member Cogdill
    California Youth Authority Director Walter Allen III

bcc: Board of Supervisors

Margie Williams, Clerk of the Board
TO: SUPERVISOR BIBBY
FROM: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board
SUBJECT: POTENTIAL CLOSURE OF THE CALIFORNIA YOUTH AUTHORITY CAMP
Resolution No. 04-1

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MARIPOSA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA,

ADOPTED THIS Order on January 6, 2004

ACTION AND VOTE:

9:42 a.m. Public Presentations: For Non-Timed Agenda Items including Attention, Information, and Consent Agenda, and for Items Not on the Agenda
- Mary Williams/Community Services Director, provided input relative to the potential closure of the Mount Bullion Youth Conservation Camp. Supervisor Pickard advised of notice that was just received relative to a “town hall” meeting scheduled for this Friday on this matter. (M)Pickard, (S)Stetson, the rules were waived requiring 72 hours agenda noticing to consider this matter, finding that it was not known about at the time the agenda was prepared and it is a matter of urgency as the meeting is scheduled to occur prior to the next Board meeting/Ayes: Unanimous. Discussion was held relative to the information that was received from the State; having a Board member attend and provide testimony at the meeting; and urging the public to attend and advise of the benefits of having the Camp in the County. Supervisor Bibby advised that she could attend the meeting. Chairman Pickard urged departments and the public to provide the Board with supporting information, and to assist in carrying the message to the State to retain the Camp. Jim Allen/Sheriff, commented on assistance that the Camp provides to the Sheriff Department programs, the community and the schools. Eleanor Keuning commented on the assistance that the Camp provides to community groups, including the Museum and History Center. Rich Begley/PWD-Deputy Director of Parks and Recreation, commented on assistance they receive, including the cleaning of debris from Mariposa Creek. Further discussion was held. (M)Stetson, (S)Bibby, Res. 04-1 was adopted strongly supporting keeping the Mt. Bullion Youth Authority Camp facility open, and direction was given for the County Administrative Officer to prepare the resolution and for the resolution to be distributed to all appropriate legislative representatives. The motion was amended, agreeable with the maker and second, to give direction that the resolution reaffirm the Board’s previous actions taken in 1990 and 1992 (Resolutions Nos. 90-434 and 92-335) and be updated/Ayes: Unanimous.

cc: Rich Inman, County Administrative Officer
    Supervisor Stetson
    Supervisor Balmain
    Supervisor Parker
    Supervisor Pickard
    File