

## RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

### A RESOLUTION PETITIONING THE GOVERNOR OF IOWA AND THE STATE LEGISLATURE TO ADDRESS THE FAILINGS OF THE MASTER MATRIX

**WHEREAS**, the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors, has been presented with 16 applications for permits to construct concentrated animal feeding operation (CAFO) in Hamilton County, Iowa in the past 2 years; and,

**WHEREAS**, CAFOs in Iowa have proliferated at a rate and number likely unanticipated by the authors of the 2002 Matrix, resulting in 216 medium or large CAFOs in Hamilton County large enough to require manure management plan; and,

**WHEREAS**, we recognize the important contributions of the independent family farms and that the corporate factory farm model does not support independent family farms; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors, have stated that they feel powerless to make changes in the CAFO applications or deny them when confronted with pertinent information regarding the hazards to the public of CAFO's in Hamilton County, Iowa ; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors has often forwarded the public's concerns about CAFO placements to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) with little consequence to the CAFOs; and

**WHEREAS**, the air pollution from CAFOs travels beyond the CAFO site impacting the quality of life in the surrounding neighborhoods, causing property values to decline, resulting in lower tax revenue and resale values of people investments in their homes; and,

**WHEREAS**, the odors, nitrates, and bacteria that result from CAFOS negatively impacts initiatives in Hamilton County to increase tourism around the Boone River and lakes; and,

**WHEREAS**, corporations that build CAFOs are subsidized by the public when they benefit from the Pollution Control Exemption Tax when they put roofs over manure pits, pay lower agricultural taxes rather than corporate rates, utilize federal subsidies found in the Farm Bill for buildings, pay lower water and utility rates, which causes other land owners to carry the inequitable tax burdens for road repairs caused by heavy traffic and potential water degradation; and,

**WHEREAS**, the current legislation and regulation that applies to the use of a Master Matrix has failed to adequately differentiate between the geography, water sources and other critical considerations throughout different regions within the State; and,

**WHEREAS**, the failure to properly take into consideration information within the knowledge of local sources, has highlighted the failings of the Master Matrix to protect the air, water, health, "quality of life" and economic interests of the citizens we were elected to represent; and,

**WHEREAS**, the inadequacies of the Master Matrix in its present form have been scientifically documented and legislative remedies are needed.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

- 1. Do hereby petition the Governor of Iowa and the State Legislature to address the failings of the Master Matrix to protect the air, water, health, "quality of life" and economic interests of the citizens we were elected to represent.**
2. Do hereby petition the Governor of Iowa and the State Legislature to institute local control so that counties can determine the appropriate siting and environmental protection requirements for CAFOs, as the Master Matrix has failed to protect our community during its 16-year existence.

3. Formally request that the DNR be directed to place a moratorium on any additional CAFO construction permits until there are fewer than 100 impaired waterbodies in the state of Iowa.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2018.

***HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD  
OF SUPERVISORS***

\_\_\_\_\_

Chairman

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

County Auditor