

**MORGAN COUNTY, COLORADO
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

RESOLUTION NO. 2021 BCC 12

**RECOGNIZING THE MANY CONTRIBUTIONS OF MORGAN COUNTY
LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS
AND SUPPORTING THE LOCAL AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY**

WHEREAS, the Governor of Colorado has proclaimed a boycott of meat products, referred to as a “MeatOut” - in order to promote meatless diets as proposed by the Farm Animal Rights Movement (FARM), to be observed by Coloradans on March 20, 2021; and

WHEREAS, cattle and other livestock production have historically been, and continue to be, one of the key economic drivers in Morgan County; and

WHEREAS, Morgan County Livestock Producers are part of a \$3.4B state industry with a \$40B economic impact and accounts for 10% of the states total export sales; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Department of Agriculture reported (2017) the annual sale value of Morgan County cattle, calves, poultry, and hogs exceeded \$470 Million; and

WHEREAS, there are 1,302 ag producers in Morgan County that employ over 5,000 citizens in the agriculture sector and related industries, a very large number of which are involved in ranching and livestock production; and

WHEREAS, The 2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines issued by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration recognizes that a variety of animal and plant proteins is important to a healthy diet; and

WHEREAS, Morgan County is a declared “Right to Farm” county and has taken regulatory steps to protect our active farms and ranches; and

WHEREAS, The Colorado General Assembly is considering passage of Senate Bill 21-079 which concerns deregulation of direct to customer meat sales in support of ranch to table private enterprise.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MORGAN COUNTY, COLORADO declares its support for our cattlemen and other livestock producers and proclaims March 20, 2021 as Morgan County Livestock Producers Day; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commission expresses their deep concern that the Governor of Colorado would call for a boycott, even of one-day duration, of an industry that is key and essential to both our local and state economy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commission asks the Governor to rescind his “MeatOut” Proclamation and issue a new proclamation claiming March 20th to be “Colorado Healthy Foods Day” which would include all ag producers in Colorado; and

FINALLY, SHALL IT BE RESOLVED, that the Commission supports all ag producers in Morgan County and throughout the state of Colorado and ask all Colorado elected officials to stand with our ag producers and oppose Governor Polis’s “MeatOut” Proclamation.

APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2021.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MORGAN COUNTY, COLORADO

Mark A. Arndt, Chairman

Jon J. Becker, Commissioner

Gordon H. Westhoff, Commissioner

ATTEST:
(SEAL)

Susan Bailey, Clerk to the Board