

W. 4. E. 1.

IN THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LANE COUNTY, OREGON

RESOLUTION NO.

) IN THE MATTER OF RECOGNIZING
) SEA LION CAVES FOR 75-YEARS OF
) CONTINUOUS SERVICE TO LANE COUNTY
) AND PRESERVATION OF A NATURAL
) WONDER.

WHEREAS, the Sea Lion Caves was discovered in 1880 by a local seaman, Captain William Cox, who purchased the land in 1887 from the State of Oregon. At this time there were no roads in the area, and the slopes of the rocky headlands were used as a sheep pasture; and

WHEREAS, Captain Cox and his heirs owned the property until 1926, at which time, the land was acquired by Mr. R.E. Clanton, with the specific intention of opening the Cave as a business; and

WHEREAS, in 1930, when the completion of U.S. Highway 101 was assured, Mr. Clanton was joined by Mr. J.G. Houghton and Mr. J.E. Jacobson, who collectively risked all of their assets to build a safe access to the cave; and

WHEREAS, the three partners hand-excavated a trail 1500 feet long into the face of the cliff, and built a 135 stair-step wooden tower down to the north entrance of the caves; after much hard work and effort, the Sea Lion Caves was opened in 1932; and

WHEREAS, in 1934, Mr. Clanton withdrew from the partnership, and Mr. R.A. Saubert was admitted as a partner. The same three families have since operated the Sea Lion Caves as a private enterprise, with the ownership passing to the partners' sons after World War II. One of the sons, Clifton Sidney Saubert in 1946, purchased the Saubert family share of the Sea Lion Caves from his mother Hannah; and

WHEREAS, since the inception the of Sea Lion Caves, word of this unique attraction has spread, resulting in frequent visits by students of geology, ornithology, marine biology and natural history, and hundreds of thousands of visitors from all over the world; and

WHEREAS, following the completion of a 215' high elevator in 1961, and the recent renovation of a 2-acre viewing room with a 125 foot rock doom, the company has experienced an ever increasing number of visitors,

NOW, THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Lane County Board of Commissioners wishes to recognize and honor the Sea Lion Caves, and the multiple generations of dedicated family members who have provided the citizens of Lane County, Oregon, the United States of America and the world, a wondrous gift of natural beauty and local economic opportunity; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, the Lane County Board of Commissioners wish to thank the Saubert Family for their strong commitment to protecting and preserving a natural wonder, while at the same, time providing a strong economic base for our local economy by providing family wages jobs and benefits, thereby, making our community a better place to live, work and raise our families.

DATED this _____ day of May, 2007

APPROVED AS TO FORM
Date 4/25/07 _____
Lane County
Jenna G. Huber
OFFICE OF LEG. COUNSEL

Faye Stewart, Chair
Lane County Board of Commissioners