RESOLUTION
No. 2020 – 5

A RESOLUTION URGING OPPOSITION TO THE PURPOSEFUL INTRODUCTION AND ARTIFICIAL ACCELERATION OF THE GRAY WOLF POPULATION IN COLORADO

WHEREAS, Logan County is a legal and political subdivision of the State of Colorado to which the Board of County Commissioners is authorized to act; and

WHEREAS, the Board is empowered by statute with authorities to address certain threats to the life, health, and safety of the citizens of Logan County; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary of State of Colorado approved a petition to place Initiative #107 “Restoration of Grey Wolves” on the 2020 general election ballot and sufficient signatures were obtained to have this Initiative appear on the ballot this November; and

WHEREAS, the Department of the Interior, in March 2019, recommended removing the Grey Wolf (canis lupus) from the federal endangered species list; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado Department of Parks and Wildlife has publicly opposed the introduction of the Gray Wolf in Colorado repeatedly over the past 37 years (in 1982, 1989, and 2016); and

WHEREAS, the Colorado Legislative Council has estimated the cost just to plan for the effort in 2021 and 2022 at over $800,000 and further that beginning in Fiscal Year 2023-24, implementation costs will increase as the reintroduction of gray wolves commences; and

WHEREAS, there are already identified viable wolf populations within Colorado that have migrated into the state after reintroduction efforts previous taken in Wyoming and New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, in states where wolves have been re-introduced, incidents of attacks on game animals, livestock and pets are regularly recorded while attacks on humans in other areas of North America, while less common, are known to have occurred and resulting in death and serious injury to humans; and

WHEREAS, in states where wolves have been re-introduced, cases of previously unrecorded instances of disease have been found to be prevalent in the wolf population and these diseases have been passed to game animals, and can be transmitted to domesticated livestock, pets, and humans; and

WHEREAS, organizations such as the Colorado Farm Bureau, Colorado Cattleman’s Association, Rocky Mountain Farmers Union and others actively engaged in environmental and wild game conservation and agricultural production oppose introduction of the Gray Wolves; and

WHEREAS, livestock production is a primary agricultural industry critical to the economy of the state of Colorado and Logan County, and the livelihood of its citizens.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Logan County, Colorado as follows:

1. The Board opposes any measures to accelerate the increase in the Gray Wolf population already present in the State of Colorado.

2. The Board urges citizens to research this issue, and vote against the measure that appears on the November 2020 ballot.

3. The Board supports the historic stand taken by the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Division against the introduction of the Gray Wolf, most recently articulated in its Resolution 16-1.

4. The Board supports the actions initiated to remove the Gray Wolf from the Endangered Species List and return management of any current wolf populations to state wildlife conservation agencies and public health officials.

Adopted and Signed this 21st day of January, 2020.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF LOGAN COUNTY, COLORADO

[Signatures]

Joseph A. McBride, Chairman
Byron H. Pelton, Commissioner
Jane E. Bauder, Commissioner

I, Pamela M. Bacon, County Clerk and Recorder in and for the County of Logan, State of Colorado, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Logan and State of Colorado, in regular session on the 21st day of January, 2020.

[Signature]
County Clerk and Recorder