RESOLUTION

17-2026

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION
DONNIE POTTER

WHEREAS, Donnie Potter has faithfully served the citizens of Caldwell County for twelve years as a dedicated member of the Caldwell County Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, during this period of service, Donnie Potter has acted as a lead champion for numerous initiatives that have greatly improved the quality of life, health, and safety of Caldwell County residents; and

WHEREAS, Donnie Potter provided key leadership in launching and advancing the Student Forum, Clean Caldwell initiative, the establishment of the County's Animal Control Facility, the RESTART/PORT programs, and the creation of the Caldwell County Recovery Court; and

WHEREAS, Donnie Potter worked extensively with the North Carolina Department of Corrections to establish a soft handoff process that connects individuals leaving state rehabilitation facilities to local recovery resources, ensuring they are supported rather than abandoned; and

WHEREAS, Donnie Potter championed the Community Paramedic Program, the development of Behavioral Health Urgent Care through VAYA Health, and facilitated ongoing bi-monthly collaboration meetings between RHA, Caldwell Memorial Hospital, PORT, and EMS to strengthen behavioral health coordination and services; and

WHEREAS, Donnie Potter initiated discussions with state legislators that resulted in the reduced-cost lifetime hunting and fishing license for volunteer firefighters, and worked closely with local fire departments to secure state funding for critical capital projects, including a $2 million grant for a new station at North Catawba Fire Department, as well as providing support throughout the County's Helene recovery efforts; and

WHEREAS, Donnie Potter led numerous transportation-related safety and infrastructure improvements in partnership with NCDOT, securing more than $900 million in state funding for guardrail installations across Caldwell County; and

WHEREAS, Donnie Potter further secured $3 million in federal funding for infrastructure improvements on Brown Mountain Beach Road and addressed multiple key intersection safety needs across the County; and

WHEREAS, Donnie Potter convened the first meeting between state legislators and NCDOT to address improvements needed on the Highway 321 widening project, and secured an additional $3.7 million in state funding to repair sinkholes; and

WHEREAS, Donnie Potter has demonstrated exceptional service through board leadership roles, including serving on the VAYA Health Board of Directors, Chair of the Region 3 VAYA Health Board, NCACC One More Thing Committee/Opioid Crisis, Chair of the Caldwell County DSS Board, and as a member of the Caldwell County Library Board; and

WHEREAS, it is both fitting and proper for the Caldwell County Board of Commissioners to acknowledge such extraordinary dedication, leadership, and service to the community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Caldwell County Board of Commissioners hereby recognizes and expresses its sincere appreciation to Donnie Potter for twelve years of loyal, impactful, and distinguished service to the citizens of Caldwell County, and extends its deepest gratitude for the countless contributions made toward building a healthier, safer, and stronger community.

Adopted this the 9th day of November, 2026.

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Randy T. Church, Chairman

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Michael W. LaBrose, Vice Chairman

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Jeff Branch, Commissioner

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Patrick Starnes, Commissioner

Attest: _____
Tasha Brown, Clerk to the Board