In the matter of a proclamation)
recognizing the 175th anniversary)
of the founding of Marion County)

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, 175 years ago today, early settlers gathered on the bluff overlooking the Willamette River at Champoeg to vote on the formation of Oregon's first provisional government, responding to issues such as attacks on livestock by wolves, bears, and cougars, issuing land grants, and settling probate; and

WHEREAS, on July 5, 1843, the Oregon Territory Provisional Government was formally established and divided into four districts including Tuality, Yamhill, Clackamas, and Champooick, which was later named Champoeg; and

WHEREAS, in September 1849, Champoeg County was renamed Marion County in honor of Revolutionary War General Francis Marion, known as the "Swamp Fox," and Salem was designated as the county seat by the Territorial Legislature; and

WHEREAS, in 1851, the Marion County Courthouse site was donated to Marion County by William H. Willson and in 1857 the first of Marion County's three courthouses hosted the Oregon Constitutional Convention; and

WHEREAS, on February 14, 1859, Oregon was admitted as the 33rd state of the Union; and on April 4, 1859, the first recorded session of the Marion County Court under statehood was held; and

WHEREAS, in 1963, after 120 years, the County Court ended and was reorganized as a Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, today, county government is responsible for public safety, roads and bridges, public and mental health, economic development, property assessment, elections, and much more; and

WHEREAS, Marion County has played an integral role in Oregon's history; and

NOW, THEREFORE, the Marion County Board of Commissioners hereby recognizes the 175th anniversary of the founding of Marion County in 1843.

SIGNED and DATED this 2nd day of May, 2018, at Champoeg, Oregon.

MARION COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Janet Carlson   **Kevin Cameron**   **Sam Brentano**
Chair   *Commissioner*   *Commissioner*