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**PAINT CREEK TRAILWAYS COMMISSION
RESOLUTION HONORING ROCK BLANCHARD
RESOLUTION #2021-001**

WHEREAS, Rock Blanchard began his tenure with the Paint Creek Trailways Commission (the “Commission”) in 1996; and served on the Commission until 2020; and

WHEREAS, Rock served as Chairman of the Commission for fourteen of the twenty-four years of his membership on the Commission and Vice-Chairman for an additional seven years, and without fail, ran meetings in a fair and open manner, welcoming and encouraging all points of view on issues before the Commission; and

WHEREAS, Rock has been instrumental in the continued development of the Paint Creek Trail, the outreach of the Trailways Commission, and the advancement of the Paint Creek Trail; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure on the Commission, the trail grew to be recognized as a major regional recreational asset, was designated Michigan’s Millennium Legacy Trail in 2000, designated a National Recreation Trail in 2006, saw completion of the section of the trail in the Village of Lake Orion in 2019, and construction of the observation deck at Foley Pond in 2005; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure on the Commission, Rock played a vital role in the critical infrastructure Bridge 33.7 replacement, and was a key motivator in development of the Moutrie Pollinator Garden, and guided the Commission in innumerable other projects; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure with the Commission, Rock was a dedicated professional, loyal to the Commission’s mission to provide a natural setting for all segments of our population to engage in recreation and fitness activities, to enjoy nature, and to enhance the quality of life for trail visitors and area residents; and

WHEREAS, Rock’s efforts over his many years of service have contributed significantly to the Paint Creek Trail as well as to the Commission’s ability to provide exceptional service to the area residents and visitors that enjoy the trail, and his level of commitment to the Paint Creek Trail set a positive example for others to follow; and

WHEREAS, Rock’s commitment to high work quality and his dedication to the Paint Creek Trail and the Commission has proven to be a great asset to the Commission and to trail users; and

WHEREAS, his commitment to the Paint Creek Trail and the Commission leaves an invaluable legacy for trail users to enjoy far into the future.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Paint Creek Trailways Commission, by adoption of this resolution, honors Rock Blanchard for his outstanding leadership, his commitment to provide a superior trail for all trail users, and extends its sincere appreciation for his countless contributions, and the lasting, positive impact he has made during his years of dedicated service to the Paint Creek Trailways Commission and to Michigan's trail users.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Paint Creek Trailways Commission extends to Rock Blanchard its hopes for continued success in all his future endeavors.

Donni Steele, Chairperson

Dated