



Fremont County Board of Commissioners

Proclamation

RECOGNIZING RICHARD BAKER FOR A LIFETIME OF ACHIEVEMENT IN AVIATION AND DESIGNATING AUGUST 19, 2026, AS “RICHARD BAKER DAY” IN FREMONT COUNTY, COLORADO

WHEREAS, Richard Dail Baker, Jr. logged his first solo flight on October 31, 1968; and

WHEREAS, Richard Baker has been a resident of Fremont County since June of 1971, and a service member and veteran of the United States Army since he entered service in December of 1971; and

WHEREAS, Richard Baker has been a fixture at the Fremont County Airport for more than 50 years, having flown for recreation, served as a pilot for several local companies, served as airport manager, and served as a technical expert and consultant; and

WHEREAS, National Aviation Day is celebrated each year on August 19th, the anniversary of the birth of Orville Wright, who with his brother, Wilbur, were pioneers of aviation, and is a fitting and appropriate day to honor Richard Baker; and

WHEREAS, the Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award is the Federal Aviation Administration's highest honor for certified pilots, recognizing individuals who have demonstrated professionalism, skill, and aviation expertise through more than 50 years of safe flight operations; and

WHEREAS, the Charles Taylor Master Mechanic Award honors aviation maintenance technicians who have completed 50 years of exemplary service in aircraft maintenance, upholding the highest standards of safety, technical proficiency, and dedication to the field; and

WHEREAS, Richard Baker has earned both the Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award and the Charles Taylor Master Mechanic Award, an extraordinary dual distinction achieved by only a select few in the aviation community, including only 38 in the history of Colorado; and

WHEREAS, throughout his lifetime, Richard Baker has exemplified excellence in aviation, contributing to the safety, innovation, and advancement of aircraft operations and maintenance, and serving as a mentor and leader to countless pilots, mechanics, and aviation professionals; and

WHEREAS, Richard Baker has consistently demonstrated a thorough understanding of Federal Aviation Administration regulations, ensuring compliance with evolving standards that govern safe and responsible flight; and

WHEREAS, Richard Baker's commitment to professionalism, regulatory expertise, and operational excellence has set a high benchmark for all who serve in the aviation community; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure as manager of the Fremont County Airport, Richard Baker developed and implemented a 10-year plan for growth, taking advantage of grant funding opportunities and strengthening relationships between Fremont County and the FAA; and

WHEREAS, Richard Baker has continued to contribute to the success and growth of the Fremont County Airport by managing the construction of new and state-of-the-art hangars and facilities which have increased capacity, use and revenue for the benefit of the airport and Fremont County; and

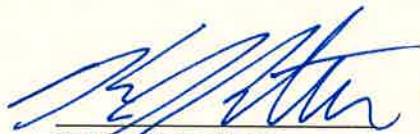
WHEREAS, Richard Baker's decades of service, dedication, and passion for aviation have brought honor to Fremont County and stand as an inspiring example of commitment to craft, community, and country; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting for Fremont County to publicly acknowledge Richard Baker's outstanding achievements and express gratitude for his lasting impact on aviation and on all those who have benefited from his knowledge, skill, and mentorship.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE PROCLAIMED that the Board of County Commissioners of Fremont County, Colorado hereby recognizes and honors Richard Baker for his lifetime of achievement in aviation and designates August 19, 2026, as "Richard Baker Day" in Fremont County, Colorado.

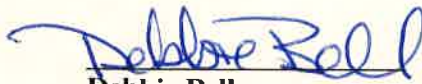
BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED that Fremont County encourages all residents to join in celebrating Richard Baker's extraordinary contributions to aviation and in recognizing the significance of his accomplishments.

Signed this 11th Day of August, 2026.



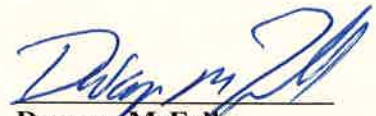
Kevin Grantham

District 1 Commissioner



Debbie Bell

District 2 Commissioner



Dwayne McFall

District 3 Commissioner