

## IN THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE STATE OF OREGON

## IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASCO

## IN THE MATTER OF RECOGNIZING JUNETEENTH AS AN OFFICIAL WASCO COUNTY HOLIDAY

## **RESOLUTION 21-006**

NOW ON THIS DAY, the above-entitled matter having come on regularly for consideration, said day being one duly set in term for the transaction of public business and a majority of the Board of Commissioners being present; and

Whereas: President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, declaring enslaved people in Confederate territory free, paving the way for the passing of the 13th Amendment which formally abolished slavery in the United States of America; and

Whereas: Word about the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation did not reach authorities and enslaved African-Americans in the South and Southwestern United States until June 19, 1865, two and a half years after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation; and

Whereas: Emancipation Day observations are held on different days in different states in the South and Southwest, and in other parts of the nation; and

Whereas: Every individual and community in Wasco County has a role to play in moving forward and promoting health and safety for all people by not tolerating violence, by challenging a culture of systemic oppression, by promoting accountability, and by participating in the efforts to end violence and abuse; and

Whereas: In 1997, the United States Congress passed Senate Joint Resolution 11 and House Joint Resolution 56, officially recognizing Juneteenth Independence Day; and

Whereas: June 19<sup>th</sup>, which became known as Juneteenth, is a celebration of African American freedom and achievement; and

Whereas: On June 9, 2020, the State of Oregon proclaimed June 19<sup>th</sup> to be Juneteenth Day.

Now, Therefore: We hereby proclaim June 19<sup>th</sup> to be Juneteenth Day in Wasco County and urge all the citizens of Wasco County to join us in its observation.

DATED this 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2021.

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Kristen Campbell, County Counsel

Wasco County Board of Commissioners

Scott C. Hege,

Steven D. Kramer, County Commissioner