

# Proclamation

## West County Wastewater Board of Directors

### RECOGNIZES JUNE 19, 2021 IN CELEBRATION OF JUNETEENTH

**WHEREAS**, Juneteenth is an annual holiday which occurs on June 19th and is observed in the United States. It is one of the oldest celebrations of the abolition of slavery in the world. While this holiday isn't an official government holiday in any U.S state, it is recognized as a ceremonial observance in roughly half of the U.S states; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1996 the first legislation to recognize "Juneteenth Independence Day" was introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives, H.J. Res. 195, sponsored by Barbara-Rose Collins (D-MI). In 1997 Congress recognized the day through Senate Joint Resolution 11 and House Joint Resolution 56. In 2013 the U.S. Senate passed Senate Resolution 175, acknowledging Lula Briggs Galloway (late president of the National Association of Juneteenth Lineage) who "successfully worked to bring national recognition to Juneteenth Independence Day", and the continued leadership of the National Juneteenth Observance Foundation.

**WHEREAS**, Juneteenth, also known as Freedom Day, Jubilee Day, Cel-Liberation Day or the Black Fourth of July, is an American holiday that commemorates June 19, 1865; and

**WHEREAS**, the history of Juneteenth can be traced all the way back to June 19th of 1865. This is when the Union Army, led by Major General Gordon Granger, arrived in Galveston, Texas with news that the Civil War had ended and that all former slaves were now free. Although President Lincoln had issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, slavery hadn't ended in Texas because there weren't enough Union soldiers in the state to enforce the new order. However, the sound defeat of General Lee in April of that year and the arrival of the Union soldiers under Granger strengthened the forces sufficiently enough to enforce the Emancipation Proclamation; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Directors of West County Wastewater hereby proclaim recognizing June 19, 2021, in celebration of Juneteenth and encourages all employees and constituents alike to recognize this day in celebrating the abolition of slavery in the world.

Dated: May 19, 2021



[Cheryl Sudduth \(May 26, 2021 11:34 PDT\)](#)

Cheryl Sudduth, President



[David Alvarado \(May 25, 2021 14:22 PDT\)](#)

David Alvarado, Director



Harry Wiener, Director



[Cesar Zepeda \(May 26, 2021 12:17 PDT\)](#)

Cesar Zepeda, Vice President



[Sherry Stanley \(May 21, 2021 18:49 PDT\)](#)

Sherry Stanley, Director