THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

and for Special Districts, Agencies and Authorities Governed by the Board

Adopted this Resolution on 11/01/2022 by the following vote:

AYE:	
NO:	
ABSENT:	
ABSTAIN:	
RECUSE:	

Resolution No. 2022/374

In the matter of designating June 19th or "Juneteenth" as an official County paid holiday:

WHEREAS, on January 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, a document that declared: "all persons held as slaves within any State or designated part of a State, the people whereof shall then be in rebellion against the United States, shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free;" and

WHEREAS, the Emancipation Proclamation, primarily a wartime measure, intentionally excluded people in the slave-holding border-states and the areas of the Confederacy that already had come under Union control; and

WHEREAS, on April 9, 1865, General Robert E. Lee surrendered to United States General Ulysses S. Grant at the Appomattox Court House in Virginia, and on April 26, 1865, US Major-General W. T. Sherman and General Joseph E. Johnston finalized the terms of surrender at the Bennett Farm House in Orange County [now Durham]; and

WHEREAS, on June 10, 1865, Major General Gordon Granger was given command of the Department of Texas, and on June 19, 1865, two and one-half years after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation, the Union soldiers led by Major General Granger arrived at Galveston, Texas with the long-awaited news that the Civil War had ended and that enslaved people were now free; and

WHEREAS, upon his arrival in Galveston, Major General Granger read General Order Number 3, which began: "The people of Texas are informed that in accordance with a Proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and free laborer"; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth — also known as Freedom Day, Jubilee Day, Liberation Day, and Emancipation Day — has become a special day among African Americans to celebrate the day when all the enslaved sons and daughters of Africa in America realized their freedom; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth officially became a federal holiday on June 17, 2021;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors hereby designates June 19 or "Juneteenth" as an official County paid holiday, thus providing the opportunity for employees and the community-at large to join together with the descendants of enslaved Africans to observe the end of slavery and the liberation of all people in the United States of America; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT should June 19 fall on a Saturday, the holiday will be observed on the preceding Friday and should June 19 fall on a Sunday, the holiday will be observed on the following Monday.

Contact: Julie Enea, (925) 655-2056

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown.

ATTESTED: November 1, 2022

Monica Nino, County Administrator and Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: , Deputy

cc: