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Proclamation- Recognizing the JUNETEENTH Holiday

WHEREAS, the United States was founded on the principle that all people are created equal and are entitled to freedom and justice; and

WHEREAS, on June 19, 1865—more than two years after the Emancipation Proclamation was issued—Union troops arrived in Galveston, Texas, to enforce the end of slavery, freeing the last enslaved people in the Confederacy; and

WHEREAS, this day became known as **Juneteenth**, a time to honor the end of slavery in the United States and to celebrate African American history, resilience, and achievement; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth has been commemorated for over 150 years and is now recognized as a federal, state, and Black Hawk County holiday; and

WHEREAS, we recognize that many continue to reflect on the legacy of slavery and the ongoing pursuit of equity and belonging in American life; and

WHEREAS, Black Hawk County is home to the highest proportion of Black residents in Iowa and has a longstanding tradition of celebrating Juneteenth through community-led events and education; and

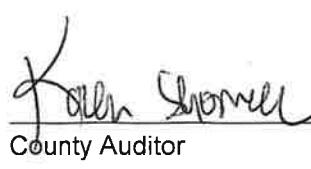
WHEREAS, Black Hawk County recognizes Juneteenth as a time for staff and the broader community to celebrate freedom, reflect on our nation's history, and continue working toward the promise of liberty and equality for all

WHEREAS, 2025 marks 30 years of Juneteenth celebrations in Black Hawk County, including this year's celebration, June 21-22 at Sullivan Park in Waterloo, and other community gatherings across the county;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Black Hawk County Board of Supervisors does hereby proclaim its continued observance of Juneteenth as a County holiday on June 19, and invites all residents to honor its meaning through learning, reflection, and participation in community celebrations.


Chair, Board of Supervisors

Date


County Auditor

6.17.25
Date