



**Title:** Recognizing June 19 (Juneteenth) as a District Holiday

**Resolution number:** 23-020

**Prepared by:** Name: Deb Johnson  
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**Reviewed by:** Name/Title: Louis Smith, District Counsel

**Recommended action:** Approval of Resolution

**Past Board action:** None

**Summary:**

June 19 is an important day in history recognized as the day in which the pronouncement of the abolition of slavery was announced on June 19, 1865 when the Emancipation Proclamation was said to have been first publicly read in Texas. The announcement came 2½ years after President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation.

On February 3, 2023 Governor Walz signed into law an amendment of Minnesota Statutes 2022, sections 10.55; 645.44, subdivision 5, enacting June 19 (Juneteenth) as an official Minnesota state holiday effective August 1, 2023. The effective date of August 1 was to ensure the new holiday did not interfere with existing meeting schedules for the current calendar year. More recently, the Senate and House have added the holiday start date to the current omnibus bill and are recommending changing the holiday start date to June 19, 2023, rather than August 1.

As the MCWD follows the state holiday schedule this new holiday will be added accordingly. Although the holiday was set to officially begin on August 1, 2023 to avoid conflicts in existing schedules, as this date does not conflict with any District business in 2023, and based on current legislative action, staff is recommending the holiday be implemented on June 19, 2023 rather than waiting until 2024.



**RESOLUTION**

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WHEREAS, June 19 is an important day in history recognized as the day in which the Emancipation Proclamation was said to have been first publicly read in Texas in 1865, two and a half years after President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation; and

WHEREAS, On February 3, 2023 Governor Walz signed into law an act to designate June 19 (Juneteenth) an official Minnesota state holiday effective August 1; and

WHEREAS, The effective date of August 1 was to ensure the new holiday did not interfere with existing meeting schedules for the current calendar year; and

WHEREAS, The MCWD follows the state holiday schedule; and

WHEREAS, The date of June 19, 2023 does not interfere or conflict with the District's current calendar of business and the Administrator recommends implementing the holiday effective June 19, 2023.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers recognizes the addition of June 19 to the District's holiday schedule pursuant to state law and approves the addition of June 19 as a District holiday effective June 19, 2023.

Resolution Number 23- 020 was moved by Manager \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by Manager \_\_\_\_\_. Motion to adopt the resolution \_\_\_ ayes, \_\_\_ nays, \_\_\_ abstentions. 04/27/2023

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Secretary Date: \_\_\_\_\_