

Proclamation

Board of Commissioners for Washington County

A PROCLAMATION IN HONOR OF LGBTQ PRIDE MONTH

WHEREAS, the struggle for dignity and equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning (LGBTQ) people is reflected in the tireless dedication of advocates and allies who strive to forge a more inclusive society; and

WHEREAS, President Bill Clinton, on June 2, 2000, declared June “Gay & Lesbian Pride Month” to commemorate the June 1969 Stonewall Uprising in Lower Manhattan and on June 1, 2009, President Barack Obama expanded the commemoration further by declaring June to be Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride Month; and

WHEREAS, June 28, 2019 marks the fiftieth anniversary of the Stonewall Uprising which broke out following a police raid on the Stonewall Inn, targeting LGBTQ patrons and other marginalized people, in violation of their civil rights, leading to the birth of the “Gay Rights Movement;” and

WHEREAS, LGBTQ Americans, including those who live in our local communities, face discrimination simply for being who they are and for who they love and there remains much work to do to extend the promise of our country to every person; and

WHEREAS, the landmark Supreme Court decision of 2015 guaranteeing marriage equality in all 50 States was a historic victory for LGBTQ Americans and continues to affirm our belief that we are all more free when we are treated as equals; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on this 21st day of May, 2019, the Washington County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim June 2019 as Washington County’s first-ever Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning Pride Month; and encourages all community residents to eliminate prejudice wherever it exists and to celebrate our great diversity by taking part in community events throughout June which focus on and celebrate our LGBTQ neighbors.

Kathryn Harrington, Washington County Board Chair

Recording Secretary

Minute Order