

METROPOLITAN WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT of GREATER CHICAGO RESOLUTION

SPONSORED by the BOARD of COMMISSIONERS RECOGNIZING the MONTH of MARCH as

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

WHEREAS, March is celebrated as Women's History Month worldwide in acknowledgement of the immense contributions that women have made throughout history; and

WHEREAS, the commemoration of Women's History Month in the United States began in 1978 in Santa Rosa, California. The Education Task Force of the Sonoma County Commission on the Status of Women organized a Women's History Week event. The week of March 8 was chosen as a way of incorporating International Women's Day into the celebration; and

WHEREAS, the weeklong celebration in Santa Rosa gained popularity, and in February of 1980, President Jimmy Carter issued the first Presidential Proclamation declaring the week of March 8th as National Women's History Week. In 1981, the first Congressional proclamation was issued; and

WHEREAS, Women's History Month became officially recognized in 1987 when Congress passed Public Law 100-9. Presidential proclamations have been issued annually in observance of the abundant accomplishments of women; and

WHEREAS, each year the National Women's History Alliance selects a theme for Women's History Month. The theme for 2022 is "Women Providing Healing, Promoting Hope". This theme was selected to honor the spirit and dedication of the numerous frontline workers and caregivers that have provided support during the novel coronavirus pandemic. The theme also recognizes the innumerable historical women that have provided healing and hope; and

WHEREAS, throughout history, women have proven that there is no limit to what can be achieved through hard work and perseverance. While often being relegated to supporting roles, women have demonstrated that there is no correlation

between intelligence and gender. Instead, women have confirmed that all people are, in fact, created equal; and

WHEREAS, women are invaluable at the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago ("District"). Since the 1972 election of Joanne H. Alter and Joan G. Anderson as the first female Commissioners, women have assumed positions of ever-increasing responsibility at the District, including President and Vice President of the Board of Commissioners, department heads, treatment plant operators, plumbers, electricians, master mechanics, pollution control officers, as well as a plethora of other positions; and

WHEREAS, our Board of Commissioners was largely composed of men for over a century but the District is proud that there are seven intelligent, strong, and proud women on our Board who utilize their various skills and passions to protect our water environment and improve our communities; and

WHEREAS, there are hundreds of women that work tirelessly at the District to protect our water environment. These women bring a wealth of talent and skills to the agency and are instrumental to our success, supervising and mentoring staff, growing our value throughout Cook County, and showing tremendous pride in the services that we deliver; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Board of Commissioners of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago, on behalf of ourselves and staff, do hereby recognize the month of March as Women's History Month; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be spread upon the permanent Record of Proceedings of the Board of Commissioners of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago.



DATED THIS 17th DAY of MARCH, 2022.

BOARD of COMMISSIONERS

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