

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-05

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF THE
COUNTY OF SUMMIT
STATE OF COLORADO**

**RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING FEBRUARY 2023 AS “BLACK HISTORY MONTH”
IN SUMMIT COUNTY, COLORADO.**

WHEREAS, in 1915, Dr. Carter Goodwin Woodson, noted black scholar and son of former enslaved individuals, founded the Association for the Study of African American Life and History to disseminate information about black life, history, and culture to the global community; and

WHEREAS, in 1926, Dr. Woodson initiated the celebration of Negro History Week, which corresponded with the birthdays of Frederick Douglas and Abraham Lincoln; and

WHEREAS, in 1976 the Association pushed to expand the celebration to the entire month of February, and today Black History Month garners support throughout the country as all people of all ethnic and social backgrounds discuss the experience of being black in America, and

WHEREAS, during Black History Month, we recognize and celebrate the many contributions and achievements made by Black Americans to Colorado and the United States’ economic, cultural, spiritual, and political development; and

WHEREAS, the national theme for the observance of Black History Month in 2023 is “Black Resistance”; and

WHEREAS, the Black Resistance theme acknowledges the resistance against historic and ongoing oppression, in all forms in Black communities; and

WHEREAS, these efforts have been to advocate for a dignified self-determined life in a just democratic society in the United States and beyond the United States political jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, by resisting, Black people have achieved triumphs, successes, and progress as seen in the end of chattel slavery, dismantling of Jim and Jane Crow segregation in the South, increased political representation at all levels of government, desegregation of educational institutions, the passage of Civil Rights Act of 1964, the opening of the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History in DC and increased and diverse representation of Black experiences in media; and

WHEREAS, Black resistance strategies have served as a model for every other social movement in the county, thus, the legacy and importance of these actions cannot be understated; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners (the “Board”) recognizes that racism, social disparities, and inequities are an area of concern for the residents of and visitors to Summit County; and

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes that people of color have been disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic both here in Summit County and around the world; and

WHEREAS, the Board continues to work towards addressing disparity caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and strives for equity in its response; and

WHEREAS, the Boards re-commits to better understand and address inequity within our community through collaboration with a diverse group of community leaders; and

WHEREAS, the Board will further seek opportunities to become an inclusive community in which all citizens are respected and recognized for their contributions;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF SUMMIT, STATE OF COLORADO, designates February 2023 as Black History Month in Summit County, Colorado.


ADOPTED THIS 24th DAY OF JANUARY, 2023.



**COUNTY OF SUMMIT
STATE OF COLORADO
BY AND THROUGH ITS
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**


Joshua Blanchard, Chair

ATTEST:


Taryn Power, Clerk & Recorder