

Date: September 8, 2020

Proclamation #01-20

Proclamation

On motion of Commissioner Gabrielson, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, the following Proclamation was unanimously passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held September 8, 2020 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

WHEREAS: September 12 to September 18, we celebrate Welcoming Week as a way of creating home together with communities around the world. Welcoming Week is about bringing neighbors together across lines of difference to build relationships and work together on shared goals. During Welcoming Week, I invite all residents of Mower County to join this movement by taking action in the spirit of unity across differences; and

WHEREAS: Mower County is home to people of all backgrounds, including those who were not born here, but now call it home. Mower County's success depends on making sure that all residents feel welcome. New residents are a vital part of our community, along with our long-time residents, bringing ideas, starting businesses, serving in civic roles, working in critical industries and contributing to the vibrant diversity that we value; and

WHEREAS: To capitalize on diversity as an asset, our community must strive to create a culture and policies that ensure everyone can belong and thrive. That includes addressing disparities, countering hate, understanding history and helping neighbors come together; and

WHEREAS: Regardless of where we are born or how we identify, we are residents of Mower County and our lives are interdependent. Let us come together to build communities where every resident has the opportunity to contribute his or her best. Let us come together to create more prosperous communities and to reaffirm that Mower County stands as a beacon of freedom and opportunity; and

WHEREAS: We call on our residents to reach across lines of difference and participate in one or more of the Welcoming Week events in Austin. I also call on business leaders, civic groups, government agencies and community institutions to undertake their own initiatives, alongside the Human Rights Commission, beyond Welcoming Week to make Mower County an even more welcoming place for new and long-term residents alike.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jeff Baldus, Mower County Board Chair, do hereby proclaim September 12 through September 20, 2020 as

WELCOMING WEEK 2020

Passed and approved this 8th day of September, 2020.

THE MOWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

By: Jeff Baldus Chairperson

By: Aust Han Clerk/Administrator