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El Paso County, CO



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RESOLUTION NO. 20-122

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY OF EL PASO, STATE OF COLORADO**

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY DECLARATION
OF EL PASO COUNTY, COLORADO**

WHEREAS, pursuant to C.R.S. §§ 30-11-101(1) and 30-11-103, the Board of County Commissioners of El Paso County, Colorado, has the legislative authority to do all acts in relation to the property and concerns of the County, when deemed by the Board to be in the best interests of the County and its inhabitants; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709, a local disaster may be declared by the principal executive office of a political subdivision; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a novel coronavirus that was first identified in Wuhan, China and has since spread throughout the world, to include the United States of America, and to include El Paso County, Colorado; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 cases have been discovered in El Paso County, and El Paso County Public Health has surpassed multiple predetermined COVID-19 "trigger points" to include community spread and disruption of typical health care services; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization ("WHO") declared the COVID-19 outbreak a pandemic; and

WHEREAS on March 11, 2020, the Governor of the State of Colorado declared a State of Emergency through a verbal order and subsequent Executive Order D 2020 003; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared the COVID-19 outbreak a national emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Director of the Pikes Peak Regional Office of Emergency Management, in consultation with El Paso County Public Health, has advised the Board that the presence of COVID-19 within El Paso County constitutes a "disaster" as the term is defined in the Colorado Disaster Emergency Act, C.R.S. § 24-33.5-703; and

WHEREAS, the presence of COVID-19 in El Paso County creates an unprecedented impact on the citizens of El Paso County; and

WHEREAS, to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the County, as well as to protect the economy of El Paso County, the Chair of the Board of County Commissioners signed a declaration of a local disaster emergency for El Paso County, Colorado, on March 14, 2020, pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709; and

WHEREAS, the Local Disaster Emergency Declaration permits activation of response and recovery aspects of any and all local and interjurisdictional disaster emergency plans and will aid in the provision of resources to slow the spread of the disease, as more fully detailed in the Declaration; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners deems that it is appropriate to extend the Declaration signed on March 14, 2020, for an additional 30 days, as permitted pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709, and which will be effective on March 21, 2020.

NOW WHEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of County Commissioners hereby approves the Local Disaster Emergency Declaration to be signed on March 19, 2020, by the Chair of the Board of County Commissioners as the principal executive officer for the County, and which will be effective on March 21, 2020.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Declaration dated March 19, 2020, shall remain in effect for a period of time not to exceed thirty days thereafter except by or with the consent of a majority of the members of the Board.

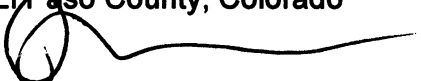
Done this 19th day of March, 2020.

ATTEST:



County Clerk and Recorder

Board of County Commissioners of
El Paso County, Colorado



Mark Waller, Chair



COMMISSIONERS:
MARK WALLER (CHAIR)
LONGINOS GONZALEZ, JR. (VICE-CHAIR)

HOLLY WILLIAMS
STAN VANDERWERF
CAMI BREMER

EL PASO BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY DECLARATION (COVID-19)

WHEREAS, pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709, a local disaster may be declared only by the principal executive officer of a political subdivision; and

WHEREAS, there is currently a threat posed by the presence of Coronavirus disease 2019 (“COVID-19”) in El Paso County, Colorado; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a novel Coronavirus first identified during an outbreak in Wuhan, China in December 2019, and since then, COVID-19 has spread to several countries, including the United States of America, and more specifically, to several counties in the State of Colorado; and

WHEREAS, the El Paso County Public Health Department (“EPCPH”) has confirmed three COVID-19 cases in El Paso County, one of whom is now deceased; and

WHEREAS, El Paso County Public Health has surpassed multiple predetermined COVID-19 response “trigger points” to include community spread and disruption of typical health care services and response.

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 outbreak as a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the Governor of the State of Colorado, Jared Polis, declared a State of Emergency by and through a verbal order and subsequent written Executive Order D 2020 003, allowing subsequent State emergency rulemaking regarding specific industries; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared the COVID-19 outbreak a national emergency.

WHEREAS, the Governor wrote, in part, that “[i]n the coming days, the State anticipates there will be additional presumptive positive cases” in Executive Order D 2020 003; and

WHEREAS, the Director of the Pikes Peak Regional Office of Emergency Management, in consultation with EPCPH, has advised the Board that the presence of COVID-19 within El Paso



County constitutes a “disaster”, as that term is defined in the Colorado Disaster Emergency Act at C.R.S. § 24-33.5-703; and

WHEREAS, the presence of COVID-19 in El Paso County presents unique challenges and places strain upon local government, emergency and medical facilities and personnel; and

WHEREAS, the presence of COVID-19 in El Paso County has created an unprecedented impact on the healthcare system and disruption of social activities; and

WHEREAS, the magnitude of the COVID-19 outbreak and the anticipated response and recovery costs exceed current operational resources available to El Paso County Government and all available resources are being utilized to protect the public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, a disaster emergency declaration permits the activation of the Medical Reserve Corps, to include the Medical Reserve Corps of El Paso County as a qualified volunteer organization pursuant to C.R.S. 24-33.5-8(D)(1), et seq., is warranted at this time; and

WHEREAS, a disaster emergency declaration permits use of County Procurement Policy Section 3.1.4, permitting emergency purchases of equipment and supplies necessary to protect the public health, particularly the most vulnerable population; and

WHEREAS, a disaster emergency declaration permits the County and its clinical partners to establish sustainable protocols to slow the spread of the disease while minimizing effects on the workplace and the economy as a whole; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate and in the interest of the public health and safety, and further protects the local economy, for the Chair of the El Paso County Board of County Commissioners to implement said recommendation; and

WHEREAS, the Chair of the Board of County Commissioners signed a Local Disaster Emergency Declaration on March 14, 2020, and the Board believes it is necessary to protect the public health safety and welfare by extending the disaster declaration for an additional thirty days.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that there is hereby declared a local disaster emergency for El Paso County, Colorado, pursuant to C.R.S. 24-33.5-709, as may be amended.

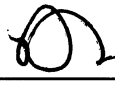
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the effect of this declaration is to activate the response and recovery aspects of any and all applicable local and interjurisdictional disaster emergency plans and to authorize the furnishing of aid and assistance under such plans.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that such activation will provide resources to support delivery of credible, accurate, and reliable information to empower the public to slow the spread of the while living their lives with minimal disruption.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this declaration shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk and Recorder, and the Colorado Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (CDHSEM).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this declaration shall be valid for a period not to exceed thirty days except by or with the consent of the El Paso County Board of County Commissioners.

DONE THIS 19th day of March 2020, at Colorado Springs, El Paso County Colorado.

By: 

Mark Waller, Chair
Board of County Commissioners and
Principle Executive Officer
El Paso County