

RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING THE EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 2447 of the County of Humboldt empowers the Director of the Office of Emergency Services, or the Director's authorized representative, to proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a Local Emergency when said county is affected or likely to be affected by a public calamity and the Board of Supervisors are not in session, and

WHEREAS, the Director of Emergency Services for the County of Humboldt, Sheriff William Honsal, finds that at the time of this proclamation the County of Humboldt Board of Supervisors is not in session; and

WHEREAS, the United States has confirmed cases of individuals who have a severe acute respiratory illness (COVID-19) caused by a novel (new) coronavirus (SARS CoV2) which causes infectious disease and was first detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China in December 2019. As of March 27, 2020, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports 85,356 cases of COVID-19 and 1,246 related deaths in the United States. The number of confirmed cases continues to escalate dramatically over a short period of time; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Alex M. Azar II declared a Public Health Emergency for the United States to aid the nation's health care community in responding to COVID-19, on March 4, 2020, California Governor Newsom declared a State of Emergency for California in response to the global COVID-19 outbreak; on March 11, 2020 the World Health Organization characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic; on March 11, 2020 the Humboldt County Health Officer, Teresa Frankovich declared the existence of a Local Health Emergency; on March 13, President Donald Trump declared COVID-19 a National Emergency; and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has determined that the virus presents a serious public health threat; and

WHEREAS, Humboldt County currently has 18 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and there is an imminent threat of increased case numbers; and

WHEREAS, once community transmission begins within Humboldt County, it will undoubtedly be accompanied by increased demands on the Humboldt County Department of Health and Human Services Public Health Division, Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services, including critical public infrastructure and services, and which require the provision of additional public safety and emergency services; and

WHEREAS, the imminent threat posed by aforesaid conditions warrant and necessitate the proclamation of a Local Emergency to enable the County of Humboldt and other local government entities to adequately plan, prepare and preposition resources to be able to effectively respond to the threat posed by COVID-19, and to warn Humboldt County residents and visitors of the threat posed by COVID-19 and enable them sufficient time to plan and prepare;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED that a Local Emergency now exists throughout the County of Humboldt, and

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The County of Humboldt requests all available response and recovery assistance from the State of California and its agencies, including funding under the California Disaster Assistance Act, State Private Nonprofit Organizations Assistance Program and federal Stafford Act

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that the existence of said Local Emergency, the powers, functions and duties of the Director of Emergency Services and his or her designee(s) shall be those prescribed by state law and the ordinances, resolutions, and approved plan of the County of Humboldt in order to mitigate the effects of said Local Emergency; and


IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that said Local Emergency shall be deemed to continue to exist for the next seven (7) days, and hereafter by ratification of the County of Humboldt Board of Supervisors, until its termination is proclaimed by the County of Humboldt Board of Supervisors; and

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED all County officers and employees take all steps requested by the Public Health Officer and/or the Director of Emergency Services to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and to prevent or alleviate illness or death due to the virus; and

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that the Governor of the State of California include the County of Humboldt in the emergency declaration by the State; ensure the County of Humboldt is included in the emergency declaration issued by the President of the United States of America and waive regulations that may hinder response and recovery efforts; and

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that during the existence of said Local Emergency the powers, functions and duties of the emergency organization of this county shall be those prescribed by state law, by (charter) ordinances, and resolutions of this county, and by the County of Humboldt Emergency Operations Plan, as approved by the Board of Supervisors on April 7, 2015, until its termination is proclaimed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Humboldt, State of California.

Dated: 3/30/2020

By: 
Sheriff William F. Honsal III