



**VALENCIA COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
RESOLUTION № 2020-22**

LOCAL EMERGENCY DISASTER DECLARATION

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners met at a duly noticed and advertised meeting on March 18, 2020, at 5:00 PM in the Valencia County Administration Building located at 444 Luna Avenue, Los Lunas, New Mexico 87031; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to NMSA 1978 Section 4-38-1 (1884) the powers of a county as a body politic and corporate shall be exercised by a board of county commissioners; and,

WHEREAS, NMSA 1978, Section 4-38-13 (1953) provides that board of county commissioners shall have power at any session to make such orders concerning the property belonging to the county as they may deem expedient; and,

WHEREAS, Section 4-37-1 et seq. NMSA 1978 provides that counties may adopt those resolutions and ordinances, not inconsistent with statutory or constitutional limitations placed on counties, to discharge those powers necessary and proper to provide for the safety, preserve the health, promote the prosperity and improve the morals, order, comfort and convenience of the county and its inhabitants; and,

WHEREAS, in December 2019, a novel coronavirus, now designated COVID-19, was detected in Wuhan, China; and,

WHEREAS, symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough, and shortness of breath, and can range from mild to severe illness; and,

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization Director General declared the outbreak of COVID-19, as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern, advising countries to prepare for the containment, detection, isolation and case management, contact tracing and prevention of onward spread of the disease; and,

WHEREAS, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention is closely monitoring the growing number of COVID-19 cases that have spread into the United States; and,

WHEREAS, over 7,000 cases of COVID-19 have been reported in the United States, 23 of which are in New Mexico, with 97 deaths nationwide; and,

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 virus spreads between people who are in close contact with one another through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes; and,

WHEREAS, the continued worldwide spread of COVID-19 presents an imminent threat of widespread illness, which requires emergency action; and,

WHEREAS, a declaration of local disaster and public health emergency includes the ability to take measures to reduce the possibility of exposure to disease, control the risk, prevent the spread of the disease and promote the health and safety of individuals in Valencia County; and,

WHEREAS, Valencia County will work collaboratively with Los Lunas, Belen, Rio Communities, Peralta, and the local schools, to ensure that all appropriate and necessary measures are taken to limit the development, contraction, and spread of COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS, by this declaration, the Board declares all rules and regulations that may inhibit or prevent prompt response to this threat suspended for the duration of this incident; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority granted pursuant to the All Hazard Emergency Management Act, NSMA 1978, Section 12-10-1 et seq., and particularly NMSA 1978, Section 12-10-5 (2007), the Board authorizes the use of all available resources of the County to assist in the County's response to this situation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DECLARED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF VALENCIA COUNTY:

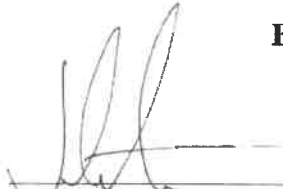
1. That a state of disaster based on public health emergency is declared for Valencia County pursuant to the All Hazard Emergency Management Act, NMSA 1978, Section 12-10-1, et seq. (2007), effective March 11, 2020, i.e., the date the Governor declared New Mexico a public health emergency.
2. Pursuant to the All Hazard Emergency Management Act, the state of local disaster and public health emergency shall continue for a period of not more than sixty (60) days from the date of this declaration, unless continued or renewed by the Board of County Commissioners of Valencia County.
3. This declaration of a local state of disaster shall be given prompt and general publicity and filed promptly with the County Clerk.
4. Pursuant to the All Hazard Emergency Management Act, the Board authorizes the Manager and the Emergency Management Coordinator to enter into mutual aid agreements for reciprocal emergency management aid and assistance during this public health emergency.

5. Pursuant to the NMSA 1978, Section 4-37-1, the County may take such actions necessary to protect the health of persons in the County.

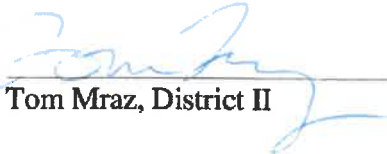
6. This declaration shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.


APPROVED, ADOPTED AND PASSED on this 18th day of March, 2020.


BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


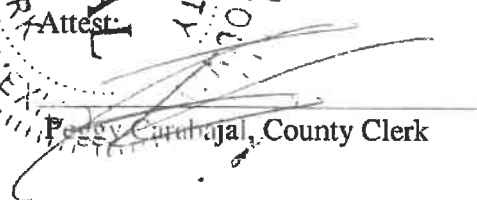

Jonathan Aragon, Chair, District V


Gerard Saiz, Vice-Chair, District I


Tom Mraz, District II


David A. Hyder, District III


Charles D. Eaton, District IV


SEAL
STATE OF NEW MEXICO
VALENCIA COUNTY
CLERK
Attest:

Pety Carabaja, County Clerk