## PROCLAMATION CONTINUING THE DECLARATION OF STATE OF GENERAL EMERGENCY CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization (WHO) raised its assessment of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 ("COVID-19") threat from high to very high and declared a public health emergency of international concern related to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has declared the potential public health threat posed by COVID-19 as 'high", both in the United States and throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-51, declaring that appropriate measures to control the spread of COVID-19 in the state of Florida are necessary, and therefore directed that a Public Health Emergency be declared in the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-52, declaring a State of Emergency in the State of Florida regarding the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, under current circumstances, certain people will have an increased risk of infection, for example healthcare professionals, first responders, and emergency medical services professionals caring for patients with COVID-19 and other close contacts of persons with COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Citrus County has a duty to take protective measures – including development of incident action response plans, procurement of personal protective equipment, pandemic preventative training and exercise coordination, and similar activities to support the public health and safety of the community; and

WHEREAS, Section 252.38(3)(a)(5), Florida Statutes, provides authority for counties to declare a State of General Emergency; and

WHEREAS, Citrus County began implementing preparations to address the serious public health threat on February 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS, The Board of County Commissioners met in Special, Emergency session on March 16, 2020 and declared a State of General Emergency within Citrus County.

WHEREAS, On March 16, 2020, The Board of County Commissioners also voted to authorize the Chairman, or in his absence the Vice Chairman, to continue the Declaration of State of Emergency without convening the Board provided that it is permitted by state law.

WHEREAS, After review by the County Attorney and addressed by Memo dated March 19, 2020, the Board's actions to authorize the Chairman, or in his absence the Vice Chairman to continue the Declaration of State of General Emergency are consistent with the statutory and code provisions in consideration of the unique circumstances of this pandemic.

**NOW THEREFORE**, pursuant to Citrus County Code Section 30-35, the Citrus County Board of County Commissioners hereby resolve, find, and declare:

- 1. The above recitals are true.
- 2. The Coronavirus Disease 2019, ("COVID-19") continues to pose a serious threat to the health of the citizens, residents, and guests of Citrus County.
- 3. The Board of County Commissioners voted in regular session to authorize the Chairman, or in his absence the Vice Chairman, to continue the Declaration of State of General Emergency in Citrus County, Florida effective for seven (7) days beginning upon the expiration of the Proclamation Declaring a State of General Emergency at 11:30 a.m. on March 23, 2020 and ending at 11:30 a.m. on March 30, 2020.
- 3. On behalf of the Board of County Commissioners, I hereby waive the procedures and formalities otherwise required of Citrus County pertaining to:
  - a. Performance of public work and taking whatever prudent action is necessary to insure the health, safety, and welfare of the community.
  - b. Entering into contracts.
  - c. Incurring obligations.
  - d. Employment of permanent and temporary workers.
  - e. Utilization of volunteer workers.
  - f. Rental of equipment.
  - g. Acquisition and distribution, with or without compensation, of supplies, materials, and facilities.
  - h. Appropriation and expenditure of public funds.
- 4. The County Administrator, or his designee is hereby empowered, authorized, and directed to exercise, on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners, such emergency powers as are necessary

to carry out the provisions of Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, including, but not limited to, the performance of public work and taking whatever prudent action is necessary to ensure health, safety, and welfare of the community, while under a Governor declared State of Emergency or a State of General Emergency, as well as any other powers expressly or implicitly conferred pursuant to Chapters 125 and 252, Florida Statutes, and any other provision of law or county ordinance.

- 5. This authority shall extend only for the period of the State of General Emergency, as determined by the County Administrator or his designee, or until further action by the Board of County Commissioners terminates such authority or declares that the State of General Emergency has ended.
- 6. The County will recognize and adhere to directives and guidance issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Florida Department of Health.

ATTEST: ANGELA VICK

CLERK OF THE

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BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA

By:

BRIAN I COLEMAN CHAIRMAN

APPROVED AS TO FORM FOR THE RELIANCE OF CITRUS COUNTY ONLY:

DENISE A. DYMOND LYN COUNTY ATTORNEY