

DESOTO COUNTY RESOLUTION DECLARING STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-14

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization (WHO) has declared a global pandemic related to COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS, DeSoto County may be impacted as a result of the global spread of the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS-CoV-2) which causes the disease COVID-19; 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 Florida regarding the COVID-19 pandemic; and,

WHEREAS, The President of the United States has declared a State of Emergency for the Country to address the public health threat to the United States of American as a result of COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS, DeSoto County began implementing preparedness actions to address the serious public health threat on January 30, 2020; and,

WHEREAS, Chapter 252.38 (3)(a)5., Florida Statutes, provides authority for a political sub-division such as DeSoto County to declare a state of local emergency and to waive the procedures and formalities otherwise required of political sub-divisions and by law pertaining to:

1. Performance of public work and taking whatever actions is necessary to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the community;
2. Entering into contracts;
3. Incurring obligations;
4. Employment of permanent and temporary workers;
5. Utilization of volunteer workers;
6. Rental of equipment;
7. Acquisition and distribution, with or without compensation, of supplies, materials and facilities;
8. Appropriate and expenditure of public funds.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of DeSoto County, Florida, this 22nd day of March that:

1. COVID-19 poses a serious health threat to the residents of DeSoto County and that a state of local emergency shall be declared, effective immediately for all territory within the legal boundaries of DeSoto County, including, that all unincorporated and incorporated areas shall be embraced by the provisions of this Resolution.
2. The County Administrator, or her 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 Local State of 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.

3. This authority shall extend only for the period of the Local State of Emergency.

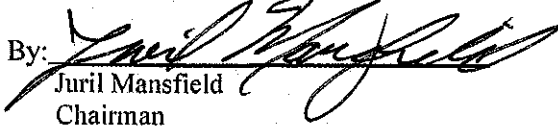
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners hereby exercise its authority and waives the procedures and formalities required by law of a political sub-division, as provided in Chapter 252.38 (3)(a)5. Florida Statutes.

DONE AND ADOPTED this 22nd day of March 2020.

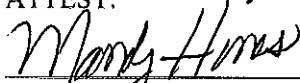
(SEAL)

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA

By:



Juril Mansfield
Chairman

ATTEST:



Mandy Hines
County Administrator

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency



Donald D. Conn
County Attorney