

RESOLUTION 20-37

A RESOLUTION AND PROCLAMATION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROCLAIMING THE EXISTENCE OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY REGARDING COVID-19; PROVIDING A DURATION OF THE DECLARATION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) is a severe acute respiratory illness that can spread among humans through respiratory transmission, and presents with symptoms similar to those of influenza, and is threatening the State of Florida and Okaloosa County with a health and economic crisis; and

WHEREAS, on January 27, 2020, Okaloosa County began information sharing and stakeholder meeting attendance in response to the emerging coronavirus threat originating in Wuhan City, China, known as 2019 n-CoV, then SARS CoV 2, then COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, between January 27, 2020 and the date of this resolution, Okaloosa County has maintained critical protective measure development and implementation in response to the changing COVID-19 threat; and

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order number 20-51 directing the Florida Department of Health to issue a Public Health Emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2020, the State Surgeon General and State Health Officer declared a Public Health Emergency exists in the State of Florida as a result of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 7, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis directed the Director of the Florida Division of Emergency Management to activate the State Emergency Operations Center to Level 2 to provide coordination and response to the COVID-19 emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-52 declaring a State of Emergency for every county in Florida, including Okaloosa County for COVID-19; and

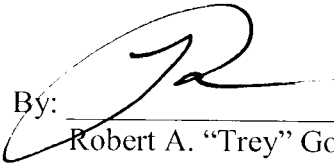
WHEREAS, Okaloosa County is a political subdivision of the State of Florida, and pursuant to Chapter 252 Florida Statutes, “State of Florida Emergency Management Act” and Okaloosa County Ordinance No. 91-23, as amended, is authorized to find and declare a “Local State of Emergency” in Okaloosa County and exercise those powers conferred by Chapter 252 and the Act.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF OKALOOSA COUNTY AS FOLLOWS:

1. The above recitals are true and incorporated into this Resolution as if set forth in its entirety.
2. In accordance with the provisions of Okaloosa County Ordinance No. 91-23, as amended, and Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, the Board of County Commissioners hereby declares a “Local State of Emergency”, and waives all procedures or formalities authorized and invokes all powers provided in accordance with said Statutes and Ordinances and pursuant to this Declaration.
3. This declared “Local State of Emergency” shall continue to be in effect for seven (7) full twenty-four hour periods from the date and hour adopted and may be extended as necessary in 7-day increments.
4. This Resolution shall become effective upon adoption.

DULY ADOPTED this 17th day of March, 2020.

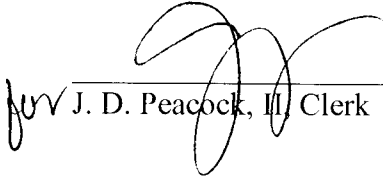
**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF OKALOOSA COUNTY**

By: 

Robert A. "Trey" Goodwin III, Chairman



ATTEST:


J. D. Peacock, II, Clerk

