

**2020-04**  
**OKALOOSA COUNTY DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY**  
**PROTECTIVE MEASURES RELATED TO COVID-19**  
**(March 31, 2020 – Amendments to Declarations 2020-02 and 2020-03)**

**WHEREAS**, Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a severe acute respiratory illness that can spread among humans through respiratory transmission and other potential methods, and presents symptoms similar to those of influenza; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, President of the United States, Donald J. Trump, issued a Proclamation on Declaring a National Emergency Concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease Outbreak pursuant to section 501 (b) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 9, 2020, Governor DeSantis issued Executive Order Number 20-52 regarding COVID-19, declaring a state of emergency in the State of Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 17, 2020, the Okaloosa County Board of County Commissioners declared a local state of emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 19, 2020, the Okaloosa County Board of County Commissioners adopted a Declaration of Emergency Protective Measures, closing public beaches, beach accessways, certain beach parking areas, beachfront parks, limited the use of the pier, and suspended beach vending permits and Crab Island vending permits (“Declaration 2020-01”); and

**WHEREAS**, on March 24, 2020, the Okaloosa County Board of County Commissioners adopted a Declaration of Emergency Protective Measures, closing various County facilities, such as pavilions, athletic fields and courts, camping and RV facilities, public bathrooms, playgrounds, and certain parks; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 27, 2020, Governor DeSantis held a press conference ordering the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission to issue an emergency order enforcing the CDC’s social distancing guidelines on sand bars and waterways; and

**WHEREAS**, based on the latest directive from the Governor, it is prudent to amend the previously approved emergency declaration to include additional closures.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Board of County Commissioners of Okaloosa County, Florida, hereby amends Declarations 2020-02 and 2020-03 as follows:

(deletions are ~~stricken through~~ and additions are underlined)

1. 2020-02 Declaration of Emergency Protective Measures is hereby amended as follows:
  1. The following County properties and facilities are hereby closed:
    - a. Pavilions;

- b. Athletic fields and courts;
  - i. Exception: open space fields designated by the Public Works Director for non-organized, general public recreational use only.
- c. Baker Arena;
  - i. Exception: individual boarders and riders located on the property.
- d. Camping and RV facilities;
- e. Community Centers;
- f. Public bathrooms;
- g. Playgrounds; ~~and~~
- h. Parks, if effectively all facilities within the park are closed-; and
- i. Pier.

2. 2020-03 Declaration of Emergency Protective Measures is hereby amended as follows:

- 1. The County hereby closes all gulf front beaches within its jurisdictional limits.
  - a. ~~Exception: individuals with a Commercial Saltwater Products License with a Restricted Species endorsement from the State of Florida for Pompano fishing.~~

3. In accordance with Chapter 9, Article III, Okaloosa County Code of Ordinances, any violation of any rule or regulation issued and set forth herein shall be punishable as provided in Section 9-47.

**PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED** at a meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of Okaloosa County on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2020.


BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA

By:   
Robert A. "Trey" Goodwin III, Chairman



ATTEST:

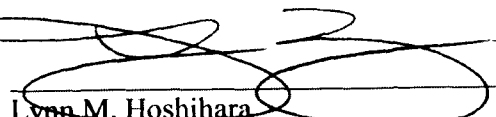
By:

  
J. D. Reacock, II, Clerk



APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By:

  
Lynn M. Hoshihara  
County Attorney