ORDINANCE NO. 20-17

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPEALING EMERGENCY ORDINANCE NO. 20-13; PROVIDING FINDINGS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

RECITALS

1. The Board of County Commissioners ("Board"), after finding by a minimum 4/5 vote of the members of the Board of County Commissioners that an emergency financial condition exists justifying immediate action, conducted a hearing at its regularly scheduled meeting of Tuesday, May 19, 2020, to consider a proposed emergency ordinance on the authority of Sections 125.01, 125.66(3), and 252.38, Florida Statutes, and the Board’s police power to protect the health and welfare of the citizens of Marion County, Florida, to consider whether to repeal, or to modify Marion County Emergency Ordinance No. 20-13; and

2. The Board adopted Emergency Ordinance No. 20-13 after a duly noticed emergency meeting on Thursday, March 26, 2020, to enact regulation necessitated by the unprecedented 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), to protect the health and welfare of the citizens of Marion County, Florida; and

3. In addition to those regulations imposed by Emergency Ordinance No. 20-13, the citizens of Marion County have been subject to numerous Executive Orders from Governor DeSantis, which orders have state-wide application; and

4. The execution and observance of the regulations and orders described above have significantly mitigated the effects of COVID-19 at both State-wide and local levels; and

5. There have, however, been significant adverse impacts to the State and local economies as a result of both voluntary social distancing and forced closures or restrictions regarding many businesses; and
6. Elected officials’ responsibility to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Florida must encompass and balance multiple legitimate concerns, including both the physical health of those citizens, and the economic health of our State and local communities, as well as allowing normal opportunities for social gatherings so long as they can be done in a manner that continues to provide for indicated safeguards; and

7. Marion County, a non-charter county, is a political subdivision of the State of Florida. Throughout the COVID-19 crisis, county and municipal local officials of Marion County have worked and coordinated closely with State officials to provide the most effective response possible to this crisis; and

8. Based on the favorable report of Department of Health-Marion Administrator Mark Lander to the Board on May 19, 2020, the Board has determined that an immediate repeal of Emergency Ordinance No. 20-13 is in order, to facilitate the most expeditious economic recovery from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in Marion County; and

9. Paragraph 10 of Emergency Ordinance No. 20-13 provided for an effective period of sixty (60) days from March 26, 2020, unless earlier repealed by the Board;

10. The purpose of this Emergency Ordinance is to provide for the earliest possible repeal of Emergency Ordinance No. 20-13.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of County Commissioners of Marion County, Florida, that:

1. The foregoing recitals are true and are hereby incorporated as essential legislative findings in support of this emergency ordinance.

2. Emergency Ordinance No. 20-13 is hereby repealed. Marion County and its citizens will continue to be subject to Executive Orders from the Governor of the State of Florida.

3. This ordinance shall be effective throughout Marion County.
4. This emergency ordinance is necessary to promote the financial welfare of Marion County and its citizens, and shall become effective immediately upon the filing hereof by the Clerk with the Secretary of State.

Dated this 19th day of May, 2020.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA

KATHY BRYANT, CHAIRMAN

Attest:

DAVID R. ELLSPERMANN, CLERK

Approved as to Form:

County Attorney