

DAWSON COUNTY RESOLUTION NO. 2020-5
EMERGENCY DECLARATION RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization has declared the worldwide outbreak of COVID-19 Novel Coronavirus a pandemic;

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, United States Health & Human Services Secretary, Alex M. Azar, declared a public health emergency for the entire United States to aid the nation's healthcare community in responding to COVID-19;

WHEREAS, as of March 19, 2020, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) indicates there are over 10,000 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the United States with 150 confirmed deaths in the United States;

WHEREAS, the Montana Department of Public Health & Human Services (DPHHS) recognizes COVID-19 as a threat to the residents of Montana;

WHEREAS, although there are presently confirmed cases in Montana, and the Montana DPHHS, local health departments, health and medical departments, and local jurisdictions have activated responses plans and protocols to combat the virus in Montana;

WHEREAS local officials are working to identify, contact and test individuals in the State of Montana who have been potentially exposed to COVID-19 in coordination with the CDC;

WHEREAS, proactively implementing mitigation measures to slow the spread of the virus is in the best interests of Dawson County and its people;

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, Governor Bullock declared a state of emergency for Montana as defined in 10-3-103 and 10-3-302, MCA;

WHEREAS, Section 10-3-103(4) MCA defines "disaster" as the occurrence or imminent threat of widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property resulting from any natural or artificial cause;

WHEREAS, Section 10-3-103(8) MCA defines "emergency" as the imminent threat of a disaster causing immediate peril to life or property that timely action may avert or minimize;

WHEREAS, Dawson County are addressing the threat that COVID-19 poses to the health and welfare of its residents and visitors;

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2020, Governor Bullock ordered closed all K-12 schools for a period of two (2) weeks;

WHEREAS, the need for medical services essential to ensure the health, safety and welfare of residents of the County will be provided by local medical facilities and the Dawson County Public Health; and

WHEREAS, the County will commit all available resources and will take all possible action to combat and to alleviate the situation; local resources will not be adequate to cope with the situation.

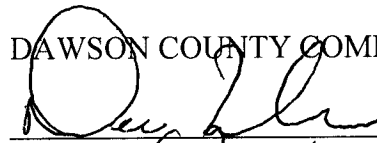
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED pursuant to Title 10, Chapter 3, Part 4, MCA, the Dawson County Commission declare that an emergency for Dawson County is posed.

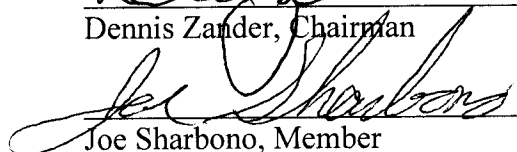
IN ADDITION, by this declaration we direct the implementation of the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan and authorize all necessary County agencies to take appropriate action to assist the County and City and individuals in containing, preparing for, responding to, and recovering from this disaster emergency, to protect County and local property, and to provide such other assistance as is necessary to protect the public health, welfare, and safety. Included is necessary testing, equipment such as Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), and other materials and supplies deemed necessary to assist with finding, preventing, and combating the virus.

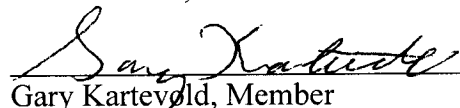
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution will be filed with the Dawson County Clerk & Recorder.

Dated this 20 day of March, 2020.

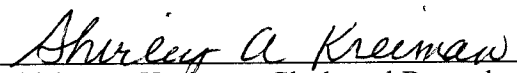
DAWSON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Dennis Zander, Chairman


Joe Sharbono, Member


Gary Kartevold, Member

ATTESTED:


Shirley A. Kreiman, Clerk and Recorder