

**PEND OREILLE COUNTY
NEWPORT, WASHINGTON**

RESOLUTION NO. 2020- 12

IN THE MATTER OF A LOCAL DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY DUE TO
SIGNIFICANT HEALTH EMERGENCY CAUSED BY COVID-19 VIRUS

WHEREAS, COVID-19, a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death, is caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which is a new strain of the coronavirus that had not been previously identified in humans and can easily spread from person to person; and

WHEREAS, the CDC identifies the potential public health threats posed by COVID-19 both globally and in the United States as “high” and has advised that person-to-person spread of COVID-19 will continue to occur globally, including within the United States; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health Human Services Secretary Alex Azar declared a public health emergency for COVID-19, beginning on January 27, 2020; and **WHEREAS**, a Presidential National Emergency Declaration for COVID-19 was declared on March 13, 2020 pursuant to Sec. 501(b) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121-5207 and **WHEREAS**, The Washington State Department of Health has now confirmed localized person to person spread of COVID-19 in Washington State, significantly increasing the risk of exposure and infection to Washington State’s general public and creating an extreme public health risk that may spread quickly; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Military Department, State Emergency Operations Center, is coordinating resources across State Government to support the Department of Health and local officials in alleviating the impacts to people, property and infrastructure, and is assessing the magnitude and long-term effects of the incident with the Washington State Department of Health; and

WHEREAS, Washington State Governor Jay Inslee has enacted the following Proclamations as a result of COVID 19 on February 29, 2020, Proclamation 20-05 proclaiming a state of emergency for all counties in the State of Washington as a result of the COVID-19; on March 13, 2020, Proclamation Amendment 20-12 limiting higher education activities and prohibiting the conduct of in-person classroom and instruction, effective 3/17/20 through 4/24/20, unless extended beyond that date; Proclamation Amendment 20-09 ordering the closure of ALL public and private K-12 schools in the state. This order is in effect from 3/17/20 through 4/24/20, unless extended beyond that date; Proclamation Amendment 20-10 waiving and/or suspending certain RCWs and WACs related to long-term care workers, effective through 4/29/20; Proclamation Amendment 20-11 ordering ALL counties in the state of Washington to cancel all gatherings of 250 people or more, until 3/31/20, unless extended beyond that date; and

WHEREAS, disruption of important services, damages to life, or damage to property can be expected from the above conditions; and

WHEREAS, measures must be taken to protect the public health, safety and welfare within the County; and

WHEREAS, County resources related to contact tracing, disease investigation and prevention, continuity of operations, public information, and funding are expected to be severely affected and/or exhausted; and

WHEREAS, the foregoing affects the entire County; and **WHEREAS**, cases of COVID-19 have been confirmed in an adjacent County and testing of County residents is currently occurring; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of Article XI, Section 11 of the Washington State Constitution and RCW 36.32.120 (6) (7), the Board has both the jurisdiction and duty to protect the public health, safety and welfare of the residents of Pend Oreille County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Pend Oreille County Commissioners hereby declares a state of emergency to respond to the impacts of COVID-19.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this declaration is cause for activation of the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan and utilization of emergency powers granted pursuant to RCW chapter 38.52, and RCW 36.32.270 and RCW 39.04.280, which allows streamlined processes for purchasing goods and services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Pend Oreille County Commissioners and such other personnel as it may designate are authorized to seek state and federal assistance and potential reimbursement for local funds spent on COVID-19 response.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this March 16, 2020

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF PEND OREILLE COUNTY, WASHINGTON

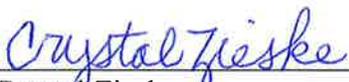


Mike Manus, Chair

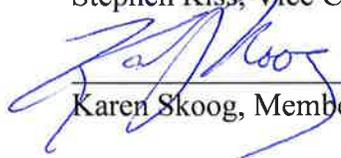
Approved via phone

Stephen Kiss, Vice Chair

ATTEST:



Crystal Zieske
Clerk of the Board



Karen Skoog, Member

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