

**PEND OREILLE COUNTY  
NEWPORT, WASHINGTON**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2020- 14**

**IN THE MATTER OF CONTINUING ESSENTIAL COUNTY OPERATIONS IN  
COMPLIANCE WITH THE “STAY HOME, STAY HEALTHY” PROCLAMATION DUE TO  
THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

**WHEREAS**, on February 29, 2020, Governor Jay Inslee declared Washington State to be in a state of emergency due to the existence of a novel coronavirus, or COVID-19, epidemic within the state; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the outbreak of COVID-19 to be a pandemic; 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**, on March 16, 2020, the Pend Oreille County Board of Commissioners (“Board”) declared a state of emergency in Pend Oreille County due to the COVID-19 outbreak; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 23, 2020, the Washington State Governor issued the “Stay Home, Stay Healthy” Proclamation 20-25; and

**WHEREAS**, Chapter 38.52 RCW vests emergency powers in the Board to take extraordinary measures for the preservation of public health and to relieve loss, hardship, and suffering; and

**WHEREAS**, the Pend Oreille County Board of Commissioners must take action to slow the transmission of COVID-19 in order to protect our employees and citizens and mitigate the impact on our healthcare system; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor designated “Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers” who protect communities, while ensuring continuity of functions critical to public health and safety, as well as economic and national security; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Pend Oreille County Commissioners intends to comply with the “Stay Home, Stay Healthy” proclamation by having essential personnel, as defined in the Governor’s directive, continue to provide the identified essential services while also protecting their health and safety;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED**, that Pend Oreille County employees are public servants with the responsibility to serve the public in good times and challenging times; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that, all employees who are healthy are expected to continue to perform their assigned duties, whether their work is done at a County facility or by an approved telecommuting agreement at home; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, all employees who are unable to perform their duties by an approved telecommuting agreement or assigned to home shall be on "Emergency Stand-by Employee Status"; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Board of Pend Oreille County Commissioners hereby adopts a new status of employee for the purpose of addressing the emergency COVID-19 pandemic titled, "Emergency Stand-by Employee Status" defined as "A fully paid status: employees are assigned to home. The employee may or may not have work duties to perform from home. If work duties are assigned, a Telecommuting Agreement shall be put in place. Regardless if work is assigned, Employees shall be immediately available to report to work if/when requested. Therefore, Employees shall not engage in activities that render them unable to report. If an Employee is asked to report and is unable to do so, they would be required to use their paid leave or go into an unpaid leave status;" and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that employees who are unable to perform their duties by an approved telecommuting agreement or employees on leave for COVID-19 related circumstances shall be placed on paid Emergency Administrative Leave and compensated with up to 10 days of paid leave; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, paid Emergency Administrative Leave under this resolution will not be provided beyond April 30, 2020, this emergency paid leave is neither a benefit nor entitlement; and

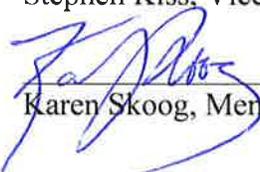
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the effective dates of this resolution are March 26, 2020 through April 30, 2020 or until such later date as may be amended by the Board of Pend Oreille County Commissioners.

**ADOPTED** this 25th day of March 2020.

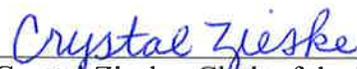
**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
PEND OREILLE COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mike Manus, Chairman

*via phone conference, by C.Z.*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Stephen Kiss, Vice-Chairman

  
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Karen Skoog, Member

ATTEST:

  
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Crystal Zieske, Clerk of the Board