



**SIERRA COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
RESOLUTION № 109-024**

CONTINUATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY DISASTER DECLARATION

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Sierra County Commission met upon notice of meeting duly published on October 20, 2020, at 10:00 A.M. in the Sierra County Administration Building, 855 Van Patten, Truth or Consequences, New Mexico 87901; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to NMSA 1978 Section 4-38-1 (1884) the powers of a county as a body politic and corporate shall be exercised by a board of county commissioners; and,

WHEREAS, NMSA 1978, Section 4-38-13 (1953) provides that board of county commissioners shall have power at any session to make such orders concerning the property belonging to the county as they may deem expedient; and,

WHEREAS, Section 4-37-1 et seq. NMSA 1978 provides that counties may adopt those resolutions and ordinances, not inconsistent with statutory or constitutional limitations placed on counties, to discharge those powers necessary and proper to provide for the safety, preserve the health, promote the prosperity and improve the morals, order, comfort and convenience of the county and its inhabitants; and,

WHEREAS, in December 2019, a novel coronavirus, now designated COVID-19, was detected in Wuhan, China; and,

WHEREAS, symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough, and shortness of breath, and can range from mild to severe illness; and,

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization Director General declared the outbreak of COVID-19, as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern, advising countries to prepare for the containment, detection, isolation and case management, contact tracing and prevention of onward spread of the disease; and,

WHEREAS, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention is closely monitoring the growing number of COVID-19 cases that have spread into the United States; and,

WHEREAS, as of October 2020, over 8,000,000 cases of COVID-19 have been reported in the United States, with over 217,000 deaths; and,

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 virus spreads between people who are in close contact with one another through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes; and,

WHEREAS, the continued worldwide spread of COVID-19 continues to present an imminent threat of widespread illness, which requires emergency action; and,

WHEREAS, a continuation of this Board's declaration of local disaster and public health emergency would include the ability to take measures to reduce the possibility of exposure to disease, control the risk, prevent the spread of the disease and promote the health and safety of individuals in Sierra County; and,

WHEREAS, Sierra County will continue to work collaboratively with Truth or Consequences, Elephant Butte, Williamsburg, and the local schools, to ensure that all appropriate and necessary measures are taken to limit the development, contraction, and spread of COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS, by this declaration, the Board declares all rules and regulations that may inhibit or prevent prompt response to this threat will continue to remain suspended for the duration of this incident; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority granted pursuant to the All Hazard Emergency Management Act, NSMA 1978, Section 12-10-1 et seq., and particularly NMSA 1978, Section 12-10-5 (2007), the Board authorizes the use of all available resources of the County to continue to assist in the County's response to this situation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DECLARED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SIERRA COUNTY:

1. That a state of disaster based on public health emergency the Board of County Commissioners declared on March 17, 2020 pursuant to the All Hazard Emergency Management Act, NMSA 1978, Section 12-10-1, et seq. (2007), which was effective March 11, 2020, i.e., the date the Governor declared New Mexico a public health emergency, and yet again on June 16, 2020, is hereby extended for an additional sixty (60) days as provided herein.
2. Pursuant to the All Hazard Emergency Management Act, the Board of County Commissioners of Sierra County hereby continues its declaration of a state of local disaster and public health emergency for sixty days from the date of this declaration, until December 20, 2020, unless continued or renewed by the Board of County Commissioners of Sierra County.
3. This continuation of the declaration of a local state of disaster shall be given prompt and general publicity and filed promptly with the County Clerk.

4. Pursuant to the All Hazard Emergency Management Act, the Board continues to authorize its Manager and the Emergency Management Coordinator to continue to enter into mutual aid agreements for reciprocal emergency management aid and assistance during this public health emergency.
5. Pursuant to the AHEMA, the Manager shall continue to be authorized to make such expenditures as necessary to protect the health, safety and welfare of County residents during this crisis, and to continue to make such determinations with respect to the dedication of human resources as may be necessary to address this crises.
6. Pursuant to the NMSA 1978, Section 4-37-1, the County may continue to take such actions necessary to protect the health of persons in the County.
7. This declaration shall be deemed to have taken effect upon the expiration of the former declaration, and will continue as provided herein.

APPROVED, ADOPTED, AND PASSED on this ___ day of _____, 2020.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SIERRA COUNTY

James Paxon, Chairman

Travis Day, Vice-Chair

Frances Luna, Commissioner

Attest:

Shelly K. Trujillo
Sierra County Clerk