

JACKSON COUNTY, COLORADO  
LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY DECLARATION  
COVID-19 VIRUS

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a highly contagious virus that originated in China and has since spread to numerous countries throughout the world, including the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 may cause serious illness or death in certain cases, particularly where the elderly or persons with underlying health conditions contract it; and

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the worldwide outbreak of COVID-19 a "public health emergency of international concern"; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services declared COVID-19 as a public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, the Governor of the State of Colorado, Jared Polis, announced a state of emergency due to the COVID-19 outbreak; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States, Donald Trump, declared a national state of emergency due to the COVID-19 outbreak; and

WHEREAS, as of March 18th, 2020, all neighboring counties to the east, west, and south of Jackson County have confirmed cases of COVID-19 with more positive tests expected; and

WHEREAS, health officials anticipate that, due to the highly contagious nature of COVID-19, Jackson County is likely to see cases of COVID-19 within the community; and

WHEREAS, Jackson County anticipates that cases of the COVID-19 virus will occur in Jackson County and may result in serious illness or death for certain at-risk members of the community and also may have the effect of interrupting the normal daily functioning of the community in terms of closures for workplaces, schools and the like; and

WHEREAS, the expense and magnitude of responding to and recovering from the impact of a significant COVID-19 outbreak in Jackson County is in excess of the County's available resources; and

WHEREAS, Colorado law provides for local governments to declare a local disaster emergency to assist local governments in responding to and recovering from emergency events, including pandemics like COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to § 24-33.5-709(1), C.R.S., "[a] local disaster may be declared only by the principal executive officer of a political subdivision. It shall not be continued or renewed in excess of seven days except by or with the consent of the governing board of the political subdivision"; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to § 24-33.5-709(2), C.R.S., "[t]he effect of a declaration of a local disaster emergency is to activate the response and recovery aspects of any and all applicable local and interjurisdictional disaster and emergency plans and to authorize the furnishing of aid and assistance under such plans."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Chair of the Board of County Commissioners of Jackson County, Colorado that:

1. It is hereby determined and declared that the likely presence of the COVID-19 virus within Jackson County constitutes a local disaster emergency that warrants the mobilizing of emergency response and the furnishing of aid and assistance.
2. This Jackson County Disaster Emergency Declaration shall promptly be filed with the Jackson County Clerk and Recorder, the Jackson County Office of Emergency Management and the Colorado Office of Emergency Management.
3. This Declaration shall remain in effect for a period of no longer than seven days, unless continued or renewed in excess of this timeframe by action of the Board of County Commissioners of Jackson County.
4. This Declaration is necessary for the public health, safety and welfare of the citizens and visitors of Jackson County, Colorado.

DECLARED this 18th day of March 2020 at Walden, Colorado at 1:00 p.m.



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Daniel E. Manville, Chair  
Board of County Commissioners  
Jackson County, Colorado