

**SAN MIGUEL COUNTY, COLORADO
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY DECLARATION

WHEREAS, there is currently a threat posed by the potential presence of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (“COVID-19”) in San Miguel County, Colorado; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a novel Coronavirus first identified during an outbreak in Wuhan, China in December 2019, and since then, COVID-19 has spread to several countries, including the United States of America, and more specifically, to several counties in the State of Colorado; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 outbreak as a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the Governor of the State of Colorado, Jared Polis, declared a State of Emergency by and through a verbal order and subsequent written Executive Order D 2020 003, allowing subsequent state emergency rulemaking regarding specific industries; and

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

WHEREAS, on March 14, 2020, Governor Polis issued an executive order closing all ski resorts in Colorado; and

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2020, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment confirmed 30 additional new positive cases in Colorado bringing the total number of positive cases around the state to 131; and

WHEREAS, the potential presence of COVID-19 in San Miguel County presents unique challenges and places strain upon local government, emergency and medical facilities and personnel; and

WHEREAS, the potential presence of COVID-19 in San Miguel County has created an unprecedented impact on the healthcare system and disruption of social activities; and

WHEREAS, the magnitude of the COVID-19 outbreak and the anticipated response and recovery costs are anticipated to exceed current operational resources available to the San Miguel County Government and all available resources are being utilized to protect the public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, Colorado law provides for declaring a local disaster emergency to assist local governments in responding to and recovering from emergency events, including epidemics, and “activates 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 plan” C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709(2); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709(1), a local disaster may be declared only by the principal executive officer of a political subdivision and shall only be valid for a period not to exceed seven days unless by or with the consent of a majority of the members of the Board of County Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, making a declaration of a local disaster emergency is appropriate and in the interest of the public health and safety, and further protects the local economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chair of the Board of County Commissioners hereby declares a local disaster emergency for San Miguel County, Colorado, pursuant to C.R.S. 24-33.5-709(1), as may be amended.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a majority of the Board of County Commissioners is in support of the declaration made by the Chair.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the effect of this declaration is to activate the response and recovery aspects of any and all applicable local and interjurisdictional disaster emergency plans and to authorize the furnishing of aid and assistance under such plans.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that such activation will provide resources to support delivery of credible, accurate, and reliable information to empower the public to slow the spread of the disease while living their lives with minimal disruption.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that San Miguel County encourages people to remain calm and to base their actions on credible sources of information.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this declaration shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk and Recorder, and the Colorado Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (CDHSEM).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this declaration shall be valid until April 3, 2020 unless extended by the San Miguel County Board of County Commissioners.

DONE THIS 16th day of March 2020, at Telluride, San Miguel County, Colorado.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SAN MIGUEL COUNTY, COLORADO**

By: 
Hilary Cooper, Chair

ATTEST:

Hilary Cooper
Kris Holstrom
Lance Waring

Aye Nay Abstain Absent
Aye Nay Abstain Absent
Aye Nay Abstain Absent


Carmen Warfield, Chief Deputy Clerk to the Board

