

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

In the Matter of Declaring a Local State of
Emergency Due to COVID-19
(Coronavirus)

RESOLUTION NO. 25-2020

WHEREAS, ORS 401.309 authorizes the Board of County Commissioners for Columbia County (hereinafter, the "Board") to declare that a state of emergency exists in Columbia County and to establish procedures to prepare for and carry out any activity to prevent, minimize, respond to or recover from an emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that a state of emergency exists in Columbia County due to the following conditions:

- COVID-19 is a highly contagious and novel Coronavirus for which there is no vaccine, and the public is at risk for contracting the disease;
- Oregon announced its first presumptive case of COVID-19 on February 28, 2020;

WHEREAS, the following disruption of important services, damage to life, or damage to property can be expected from the above conditions:

- COVID-19 requires extensive staff time to investigate and monitor cases in order to prevent outbreak and keep the public safe;
- County resources are needed to respond to this threat. Resources related to contact tracing, disease investigation and prevention, continuity of operations, public information, and funding are expected to be exhausted;

WHEREAS, a preliminary assessment of disruption to services, property damage or loss, injuries and deaths is set forth above; and

WHEREAS, because the extent of damages and assistance needed may be beyond the capabilities of the County to provide, the Board has identified the need for the following additional resources from the State:

- Assistance with public messaging and outreach, disease investigation, and assistance with implementation of the most appropriate public health measures to prevent cases and control local outbreaks;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HEREBY RESOLVES AND DECLARES that, effective March 13, 2020, at 10 a.m. a state of local emergency exists throughout Columbia County, as defined by ORS 401.025(1), due to the presence of COVID-19 in Columbia County, Oregon, and damages sustained and costs incurred as a result thereof.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that upon declaration of a state of emergency, the Board of Commissioners shall be authorized to take such actions and issue such orders as are determined to be necessary to protect the public and property and to efficiently conduct activities that minimize or mitigate the effect of the emergency, and further, that the County Department of Emergency Management is empowered to carry out the appropriate function and duties during times of emergency and shall implement the Columbia County Emergency Operations Plan.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the Columbia County Board of Commissioners may take all necessary steps authorized by law to coordinate response and recovery from this emergency, including but not limited to, requesting assistance and potential reimbursements from the State of Oregon and the appropriate federal agencies.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that emergency procurements of goods and services are authorized pursuant to ORS 279B.080, ORS 279C.335(6), ORS 279.380(4), the Columbia County Personal Services Contracting Rules, Section X.B, and the Columbia County Public Contracting Rules, Section F.6.d.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that this declaration of emergency shall expire on August 13, 2020.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be transmitted to the Oregon Office of Emergency Management.

DATED this 13th day of March, 2020.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

Approved as to form

By:


Office of County Counsel

By:


Alex Tardif, Chair