

UNION COUNTY

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-39

**A RESOLUTION DECLARING UNION COUNTY TO BE AN EMERGENCY AREA AS
A RESULT OF COVID-19**

WHEREAS, at least 83 New Mexicans have tested positive for the novel coronavirus, COVID-19;

WHEREAS, COVID-19, a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death, is caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which is a new strain of coronavirus that had not been previously identified in humans and can spread via droplets from person to person; and

WHEREAS, On March 11, 2020, the International Health Regulations Emergency Committee of the World Health Organization declared the outbreak a “Pandemic”; and

WHEREAS, The CDC currently indicates there are 400,405 confirmed cases of COVID-19 worldwide with 33,404 of those cases in the United States, and New Mexico State Department of Health has now confirmed travel related spread of COVID-19 in New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham proclaimed a public health emergency and invoked all powers under the All Hazard Emergency Act, NMSA 1978, §§ 12-10-1 through 12-10-10, for a minimum period of thirty (30) days;

WHEREAS, Union County is utilizing the Local Emergency Planning Committee, along with the Union County Emergency Manager to manage all aspects of the incident; and

WHEREAS, Union County Emergency Operations Center, is coordinating resources across local and state government to support the County and local officials in alleviating the

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impacts to people, property, and business, and is assessing the magnitude and long-term effects of the virus with the State Homeland Security Department; and

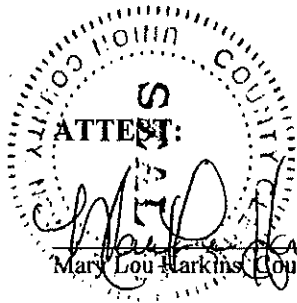
WHEREAS, the worldwide outbreak of COVID-19 and the effects of its extreme risk of person-to-person transmission throughout New Mexico and Union County significantly impacts the life and health of our people, as well as the economy of Union County, and is a public disaster that affects life, health, property or the public peace.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of County Commissioners, the governing body of the County of Union, that:

1. **By virtue of the authority provided by the All Hazard Emergency Management Act (NMSA 1978, 12-10-01 to 12-10-11), we do hereby declare Union County to be an emergency area as a result of COVID-19 for the purpose of exercising necessary emergency powers and expenditure of available resources, and requesting aid, assistance, and relief programs and funds available from the State of New Mexico;**
2. County agencies and departments are directed to utilize county resources and to do everything reasonably possible to assist affected political subdivisions in an effort to respond to and recover from the outbreak;
3. As a result of this event, it is the responsibility of Union County officials to control County resources and manage and coordinate those resources for the control of spread of COVID-19 and maintain public health;
4. The County Manager, with the telephonic advice and consent of the Chair of the Board of County Commissioners and the County Attorney, shall have authority to make emergency expenditures consistent with the emergency provisions of the New Mexico Procurement Code not to exceed the sum of \$100,000 per expenditure, to sign emergency contracts not to exceed the amount of \$100,000 per contract, to sign routine or emergency warrants normally executed by the entire Board of County Commissioners, to issue routine and emergency permits, and to take other routine and nonroutine emergency matters which would normally be taken up by the entire Board of County Commissioners during the period on declared emergency so that public meetings and gatherings are thereby avoided;
5. The County Manager with the advice and consent of the Chair of the Board of County Commissioners, shall have the authority to transfer necessary emergency funds as necessary to meet the needs of the County during the emergency; and
6. The County Manager may implement all necessary and proper measures to allow for flexibility of time and location of work, including for offsite and telecommuting for all employees during the period of this emergency.

DONE this 24 day of March, 2020.

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Mary Lou Markins County Clerk

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

B. Thompson for Justin Bennett
Justin Bennett, Chair
County Manager