



**RESOLUTION NO. 2020 - 35**

**RESOLUTION DECLARING LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, Moffat County, State of Colorado, is a legal and political subdivision of the State of Colorado for which the Board of County Commissioners of Moffat County (“Board”) is authorized to act; and

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

WHEREAS, the virus may cause serious illness or death in a significant percentage of cases, particularly where the elderly and 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 the virus a public health emergency, and on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, the Governor of Colorado declared a state of emergency for the State of Colorado due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020, the Moffat County Public Health Agency issued Order #2020-32, a “Temporary Order Closing County Offices in the Moffat County Courthouse and Setting Forth Protective Measures for the Public and for the Employees of Moffat County” which includes a phasing of responses to the Coronavirus COVID-19 to protect the community from the escalating threat of COVID-19 and designed to slow the spread of the virus through April 17, 2020; and

WHEREAS, as of March 24, 2020, Moffat County does not have any known positive cases of COVID-19 within the county; however, residents of Moffat County have been tested for COVID-19, and results of some of those tests are still pending. Public health experts anticipate that, due to the contagiousness of the illness; the fact that there is community spread of the illness in Routt County, an adjacent county; and the fact there is frequent travel between Routt County and Moffat County; Moffat County will see cases of the virus and its transmission within Moffat County; and

WHEREAS, Moffat County anticipates that without appropriately responding to the illness, numbers of cases within the county will rise and may result in serious illness or death for certain members of the community, and may also have the effect of interrupting the functioning of the community in terms of work attendance, school attendance, and the like; and



WHEREAS, the cost and magnitude of responding to and recovering from the impact of the ensuing event is far in excess of the county's available resources; 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

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. 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 C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709(2), "The effect of a declaration of 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 that the Board of County Commissioners of Moffat County, do hereby:

1. Determine and declare that the danger of the COVID-19 virus to residents of Moffat County constitutes a local disaster emergency that warrants the mobilizing of emergency response and the furnishing of aid and assistance; and
2. The effect of this declaration of disaster shall be 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 plan; and
3. This Declaration shall be promptly filed with the Moffat County Clerk and Recorder and with the Colorado Office of Emergency Management and given prompt and general publicity; and
4. This Declaration is necessary for the public health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the County of Moffat, State of Colorado.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall be effective upon the date and time given below, and, with the consent of a majority of the members of the Board, shall remain in effect until a majority of the members of the Board, together with consultation with the Moffat County Public Health Director and the Moffat County Office of Emergency Management, agree it is appropriate to terminate this Declaration of local disaster emergency. Any order or proclamation terminating a local disaster emergency shall be filed promptly with the Colorado Office of Emergency Management and the Moffat County Clerk and Recorder, and shall be promptly distributed to the appropriate representatives of the news media.



SIGNED AND EFFECTIVE this 25th day of March, 2020, at 2:08 P.M.

MOFFAT COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By: Ray Beck  
Ray Beck, Chair  
Commissioner, District 2

Don Cook  
Don Cook  
Commissioner, District 1

Donald Broom  
Donald Broom  
Commissioner, District 3

ATTEST:

STATE OF COLORADO )  
                                  )§  
COUNTY OF MOFFAT )

I, Erin Miller, (Deputy) County Clerk and Ex-officio to the Board of Commissioners, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and complete copy of the resolution as adopted by the Board of County Commissioners on the date stated.

WITNESS, my hand and the seal of said County this 25<sup>th</sup> day of March 2020.

Erin Miller  
Erin Miller, (Deputy) Clerk and  
Ex-officio to the County Commissioners,  
Moffat County, State of Colorado

