## RESOLUTION NO. #16,474

## A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF HUNT COUNTY, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO CONTAIN AND PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 FOR THE HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE OF THE COMMUNITY AND ITS CITIZENS; EXTENDING PREVIOUS RELATED ORDER; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, beginning in December 2019, a novel coronavirus, now designated SARS-CoV2 which causes the disease COVID-19, has spread through the world and has now been declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organization; and

WHEREAS, a State of Disaster was declared by the Texas Governor on March 13, 2020;

WHEREAS, symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, coughing, and shortness of breath. In some cases the virus has caused death;

WHEREAS, the Hunt County Commissioners Court declared a state of emergency on March 16, 2020, and County Judge Stovall issued an Order on that same day;

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020 County Judge Stovall and the Hunt County Commissioners Court amended the County's Disaster Resolution and included an order that all residents of Hunt County shelter in the place of their residence. On April 3, 14 and 28, May 12 and 26, June 9 and 23, July 14 and 28, August 11 and 25, September 8 and 22 and October 13 and 27, the Commissioners Court approved similar Resolutions, the latter of which is currently in place until 11:59 p.m. on November 10, 2020;

**WHEREAS**, the Commissioner of the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) and the White House Coronavirus Response Coordinator have stated that the spread of COVID-19 can be reduced by minimizing social gatherings;

WHEREAS, on March 28, 2020, the US Department of Homeland Security issued its Guidance on the Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce, Version 2.0, which provides an advisory list of critical-infrastructure sectors, workers, and functions that should continue during the COVID-19 response;

WHEREAS, on March 31, 2020 Governor Greg Abbott issued Executive Order No. GA-14 relating to statewide continuity of essential services and activities during the COVID-19 disaster, and recently issued GA-18, GA-19 and GA-20 with a 64-page guidance document on April 27, 2020 and other Executive Orders and proclamations since that date; and

THEREFORE, the April 14, 2020, Order of County Judge Stovall and the Commissioners Court Disaster Resolution is AMENDED as follows, pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 418.108:

- That a local state of disaster for public health emergency is in effect for Hunt County, Texas, pursuant to section 418.108 (a) of the Texas Government Code, and to the extent applicable under current State law the Hunt County Emergency Management Plan has been activated and is in effect.
- 2. Effective at 12:00 midnight on November 10, and continuing until 11:59 p.m. on November 24, 2020:
  - a. Hunt County will follow the Governor's Executive Orders and state guidance in effect during this period;
  - b. Hunt County adopts the current CDC guidelines on return-to-work policies, and will follow the CDC's future guidelines as they are released, except as amended or altered by any enforceable order of the Health Authority; and
  - c. The Office of the Hunt County Judge and the Commissioners Court instruct all County employees to remain at home if sick. County offices will continue to keep normal business hours, and the public will have access to the Courthouse without an appointment. Any member of the public who enters a County building will follow the Order issued by Administrative District Judge Kelli Aiken regarding all County-owned or County-controlled buildings with Court facilities. The County will also follow the terms of the Order as written. Judge Aiken's Order is attached as Exhibit "A."
- 3. This Order shall be effective from 12:00 midnight on November 10, and continue until 11:59 p.m. on November 24, 2020, or until it is either rescinded, superseded, or amended pursuant to applicable law.
- 4. The County must promptly provide copies of this Order by posting on the Hunt County website.
- 5. To the extent that any subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or word of this Order conflicts with an Executive Order issued by the Governor of Texas, the Executive Order controls. If any subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this Order or any application of it to any person, structure, gathering, or circumstance is held to be in conflict with an Executive Order issued by the Texas Governor, or held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a decision of a court of competent jurisdiction, then such conflict or decision will not affect the validity of the remaining portions or applications of this Order.
- 6. Pursuant to section 418. 108(c) of the Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster for public health emergency shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk.
- 7. This Resolution shall be in full force upon its passage and approval.

**PASSED AND APPROVED**, this the 10<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2020.

Gounty Judge Precinct 2 Commissioner

Precinct I Commissioner

Nailes

Precinct 3 Commissioner

Precinct 4 Commissioner

ATTEST: Stunder Lindenzweig, County Clerk

