

THIRD AMENDMENT TO THE LOVE COUNTY EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION DATED MARCH 17, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

This release addresses the updated and approved changes the Board of County Commissioners made today to ensure the health, safety and wellbeing of the citizens in, and the employees of, Love County.

Emergency Proclamation

Amended in an Emergency Love County Board of County Commissioner Meeting, March 25, 2020.

WHEREAS, the novel coronavirus now designated SARS-CoV-2 which causes the disease COVID-19, has spread through the world and has now been declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organization;

WHEREAS, President Donald Trump has proclaimed the COVID-19 outbreak a national emergency in the United States; and Governor Kevin Stitt has declared a state of disaster (EM-34-62) for all 77 counties in Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, costs incurred to prepare for and respond to COVID-19 are beginning to mount at the county and municipal levels; and

WHEREAS, Love County, Oklahoma has already taken significant measures to prepare for and prevent the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, it is critical to take additional steps to prepare for, respond to, and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 to protect the health and welfare of Love County citizens; and

WHEREAS, declaring a state of disaster in Love County will facilitate and expedite the procurement, use, and deployment of resources to enhance preparedness and response.

WHEREAS, amended this 23rd day of March 2020 and Consistent with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), I recommend the postponement or cancellation of all public gatherings greater than 10 people.

WHEREAS, furthermore with guidance from the CDC, FEMA and Department of Health & Human Services (HHS); I encourage people, who are well, to continue to donate blood if they are able, even if they are practicing social distancing because of COVID-19. Love County will work with our community blood centers to ensure that blood and blood products are available where and when they are needed for a disaster. Love County will appropriately prioritize for the local blood center access for fuel, emergency communications equipment and frequencies, transportation during disasters, early restoration of utilities, and re-entry access into affected disaster areas.

WHEREAS, amended this 25th day of March 2020 and by direction and consistent with Oklahoma Governor Stitt's Fourth Amended Executive Order 2020-07;

The amended Executive Order provides for the following statewide measures:

- **Issues a statewide "Safer at Home" order for adults over the age of 65 and vulnerable individuals with serious underlying medical conditions.**
- **Limits gatherings to no more than 10 people.**
- **Prohibits visitations to nursing homes and long-term care facilities.**
- **Postpones all elective surgeries, minor medical procedures and non-emergency dental procedures until April 7, 2020.**

The amended Executive Order provides for the following measures in counties with community spread:

- **Requires restaurants in Oklahoma counties with confirmed COVID-19 cases to provide take-out and delivery options only and closes all bars in those counties.**
- **Closes all businesses not identified as being within a critical infrastructure sector, such as gyms, salons, massage parlors and movie theaters, where counties have community spread effective March 25 at 11:59PM through April 15. Federal guidance on essential critical infrastructure workforce can be found here: www.cisa.gov/publication/guidance-essential-critical-infrastructure-workforce. Additions may be added by Executive**

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Stacy Rushing, Vice-Chairman of Love County Board of County Commissioners, do hereby certify that today's amendments to the Love County Emergency Proclamation are for the safety of the public and the Love County workforce; as to COVID-19 poses an imminent threat of disaster to Love County. In accordance with Section 683.3, Oklahoma Emergency Management Act of 2003, as amended; I hereby declare a state of disaster and public health emergency for Love County, Oklahoma;

This amended declaration shall take effect immediately from its issuance and shall continue until April 15, 2020 or unless continued or renewed by the County Commissioners of Love County, Oklahoma.

In accordance with the statutory requirements, this declaration shall be given prompt

and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk of Love County, Oklahoma.

Adopted this 25th day of March 2020

Shelly Russell
Love County Clerk
Vice-Chairman

Stacy Rushing
County Commissioner –