

3/20/2020 Item 4

**RESOLUTION R2020-25
DECLARATION OF STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ESCAMBIA
COUNTY, FLORIDA, EXTENDING THE DECLARATION OF A STATE OF LOCAL
EMERGENCY RELATED TO THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)**

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization (WHO) raised its assessment of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 ("COVID-19") threat from high to very high and declared a public health emergency of international concern related to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has declared the potential public health threat posed by COVID-19 as "high", both in the United States and throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-51 declaring that appropriate measures to control the spread of COVID-19 in the State of Florida are necessary and, therefore, directed that a Public Health Emergency be declared in the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-52 declaring a State of Emergency in the State of Florida regarding the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Escambia County has a duty to take protective measures to support the public health and safety of the community; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Escambia County has been informed by its emergency management staff of the continued threat posed by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 and infectious diseases have the capacity to pose a significant, imminent, and dangerous threat to the health, safety, and welfare of the inhabitants of Escambia County, Florida, visitors and tourists in Escambia County, Florida, as well as to their real and personal property; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 virus has the propensity to attach to surfaces for prolonged periods of time, thus causing property damage and continuing the spread of the virus; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners executed Resolution R2020-24 declaring a state of local emergency that shall expire at 1:59 p.m. on March 23, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners has been informed of risks facing Escambia County and considered whether or not to continue a state of local emergency.

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to ch. 252, Fla. Stat., and Escambia County Code Section 37-35(a)(1), the Board of County Commissioners hereby resolves, finds, and declares:


1. The above recitals are true and are incorporated herein.
2. A state of local emergency hereby continues to exist in Escambia County, Florida, effective for seven (7) additional days beginning at 2:00 p.m., central daylight time, on the 23rd day of March, 2020, and to expire at 1:59 p.m., central daylight time, on the 30th day of March, 2020.
3. The Board of County Commissioners, hereby waives the procedures and formalities otherwise required of Escambia County pertaining to:
 - a. Performance of public work and taking whatever prudent action is necessary to insure the health, safety, and welfare of the community.
 - b. Entering into contracts.
 - c. Incurring obligations.
 - d. Employment of permanent and temporary workers.
 - e. Utilization of volunteer workers.
 - f. Rental of equipment.
 - g. Acquisition and distribution, with or without compensation, of supplies, materials, and facilities.
 - h. Appropriation and expenditure of public funds.
4. The County Administrator, or her designee, is hereby empowered, authorized, and directed to exercise, on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners, such emergency powers necessary to carry out the provisions of Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, including, but not limited to, the powers to

direct and compel evacuation of all or part of the population from stricken or threatened areas within the County, if such action is deemed necessary to reduce the vulnerability of people in communities of Escambia County to damage, injury, and loss of life and property resulting from the imminent threat, as well as any other powers expressly or implicitly conferred pursuant to Chapters 125 and 252, Florida Statutes, and any other provision of law or county ordinance.

5. The Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) is hereby activated.
6. This authority shall extend only for the period of the state of local emergency, as determined by the County Administrator or her designee, or until further action by the Board of County Commissioners terminates such authority or declares that the state of local emergency has ended.
7. This Resolution shall be transmitted to the Secretary of State upon adoption.

Adopted this 20th day of March, 2020.

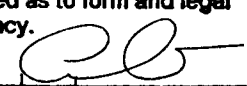
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: 
Steven Barry, Chairman

Date Executed

3/20/2020

Approved as to form and legal
sufficiency.

By/Title: 
Date: 3/19/2020

ATTEST: PAM CHILDERS
Clerk of the Circuit Court

