WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Holmes County is empowered by Chapter 252 of the Florida Statutes to declare a state of local emergency; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization has declared a global pandemic related to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Center 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, under current circumstances, certain people will have an increased risk of infection, for example healthcare, first responders, and emergency medical services workers caring for patients with COVID-19 and other close contacts of persons with COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, it is the duty of Holmes County to take protective measures – including procurement of personal protective equipment, consequence management, and similar activities to support the public health and safety of the community; and

WHEREAS, The President of the United States has declared a State of Emergency for the Country to address the public health threat to the United States of America as a result of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, other measures may have to be taken in order to mitigate the potential for causing further threatening conditions within Holmes County; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Holmes County resolves that it is necessary to declare a Local State of Emergency; and
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Holmes County declares a Local State of Emergency beginning this 17th day of March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and shall remain in effect for a period of seven (7) days and will be extended for seven day periods until the threat has passed.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Board of County Commissioners of Holmes County, Florida, has caused this Resolution to be enacted and executed on this 17th day March, 2020.

Alice Vickers, Interim Clerk of Court

Earl Stafford, Chairman
Holmes County Board of Commissioners