

# Disaster Declaration

**WHEREAS**, West Douglas County Fire Protection District ("District") is a quasi-municipal corporation and political subdivision of the state of Colorado and;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709(1) "A local disaster may be declared by the principal executive officer of a political subdivision for up to seven days, and then must have consent by the Board of Directors; and

**WHEREAS**, 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, pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709(2); and

**WHEREAS**, the Coronavirus, a/k/a COVID-19, constitutes a public health emergency of International concern and has been determined to be present in Douglas County and can be anticipated to spread significantly, requiring emergency preparation and execution of procedures to minimize its impact and protect the health safety and welfare of District Constituents; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Directors of the District have determined that pursuant to the above a Local Disaster Emergency should be declared and funds made available to prepare for and deal with its consequences.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Directors of the West Douglas County Fire Protection District that the presence of the Coronavirus within Douglas County constitutes a local disaster emergency that warrants preparation for and execution of procedures to deal with the emergency and that \$ 20,000.00 is allocated from District reserves toward preparation and execution of a response plan.

APPROVED this 24<sup>th</sup> day of MARCH, 2020.

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[CEO, Executive Director]  
West Douglas County Fire Protection District

By: Jerry Thompson fire chief

Filed with:  
Douglas County Clerk and Recorder  
Colorado Office of Emergency Management

# WEST DOUGLAS COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

## RESOLUTION NO. 2020 - 1

### CONTINUATION OF DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the West Douglas County Fire Protection District (“District”) is a quasi-municipal corporation and political subdivision of the State of Colorado and a duly organized and existing special district pursuant to Title 32, Article 1, Colorado Revised Statutes; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to §§ 32-1-1001 and 32-1-1002, C.R.S., the District has all rights and powers necessary or incidental to or implied from the specific powers granted to special districts pursuant to Title 32, Article 1; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to § 24-33.5-709(1), C.R.S., the Fire Chief declared a local disaster on March ~~25~~ 2020 (the “Disaster Declaration”) with respect to the national public health emergency and worldwide pandemic caused by a virus known as coronavirus disease 2019 (“COVID-19”); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to § 24-33.5-709(2), C.R.S., the effect of a declaration of a local disaster emergency is 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 plans; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to § 24-33.5-709(1), C.R.S., the Disaster Declaration shall remain in effect for a period of seven (7) days unless continued or renewed in excess of such period by or with the consent of the Board of Directors of the District (the “Board”); and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that the number of COVID-19 cases will continue to increase locally in the near-term, as it is highly contagious; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment has issued Public Health Orders limiting the gathering of individuals to no more than 10 people to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus, which effectively prohibits the District from holding in-person public meetings and necessitates meetings of the Board via telephone, video, or other electronic means in order to continue the essential business of the District; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to continue or renew, as applicable, the Disaster Declaration; and

WHEREAS, the Board hereby finds and determines that continuation or renewal of the Disaster Declaration, as applicable, is appropriate and necessary for the function

and operation of the District and for protection of the public health, safety and welfare of the citizens and visitors to the District.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND DECLARED by the Board of Directors of the Douglas County Fire Protection District that, due to the occurrence or imminent threat of widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property, resulting from the presence of COVID-19 within the District, the Board does hereby declare a local disaster within the District, and continues the Disaster Declaration, as modified herein. Further, pursuant to this Resolution, the Board continues to activate, or activates in the first instance, the response and recovery aspects of the District's, and any and all applicable local and interjurisdictional, disaster emergency response and recovery plans, emergency funding and Board meeting procedures, and authorizes the furnishing of aid and assistance under such plans. The Board further resolves that:

1. Until the Disaster Declaration is terminated by the Board, the Fire Chief is authorized and directed to take the following actions, as deemed reasonably necessary:

(a) Prioritize the District's resources and efforts to protect the health, safety and welfare of the residents and visitors of the District, while ensuring the safety of District personnel;

(b) Discontinue or suspend any or all non-essential services;

(c) Implement policies and practices to minimize person-to-person contact in an effort to decrease the risk of transmission of COVID-19;

(d) Suspend or modify the provisions of any previously adopted District Resolution, Rule, Regulation, Policy or Procedure if strict compliance with the same would in any way prevent, hinder or delay necessary action to provide essential services and/or ensure the safety of District personnel;

(e) Suspend any Purchasing and Procurement policy and enter into contracts and expend funds in an amount not to exceed \$ 55,000.00 per month with approval of the Board Chair. All emergency purchases shall be reported to the Board at the next regular Board meeting. To the extent possible, competitive pricing shall be sought in the reasonable discretion of the Fire Chief.

(f) Expend money from the District's emergency reserve account maintained pursuant to TABOR, Article X, Section 20 of the Colorado Constitution, as necessary;

(g) Take such personnel actions as necessary to carry out the District's priority emergency services, including but not limited to assigning personnel to work from home; temporarily reassigning District personnel; denying or revoking previously approved leave requests; requiring reasonable documentation for extended sick leave requests, including COVID-19 testing results, if appropriate; placing on leave or in

quarantine any employee reasonably believed to have been exposed to or exhibiting symptoms consistent with COVID-19 and requiring testing prior to returning to work; and placing on leave or in quarantine any employee otherwise recommended to remain in isolation or quarantine by the CDC, CDPHE, or other similar public health agency;

(h) Apply for and accept any available local, state or federal assistance, although no multiple fiscal year obligation may be entered into without Board approval;

(i) In consultation with the Board Chair and District legal counsel, arrange for meetings of the Board to be held via telephone, video conference, or other electronic means in a manner which as fully as possible given the emergency situation complies with the Colorado Open Meetings Law; and

(j) Take such other actions as reasonably necessary to carry out this Resolution and the Disaster Declaration and ensure the reliability of the District's essential services, while also ensuring the safety of the District's personnel and the public.

2. **Essential Personnel.** The Board hereby declares that Terry Thompson, Fire Chief, and all personnel responsible for essential fire protection and rescue services of the District are essential and the Fire Chief shall take such action as necessary to confirm the exemption of essential personnel from orders of federal, state and local agencies that would otherwise limit their ability to continue work on open construction projects and day to day operations necessary to maintain the operation of the District, while ensuring, to the extent reasonably possible, their safety from COVID-19 exposure and infection.

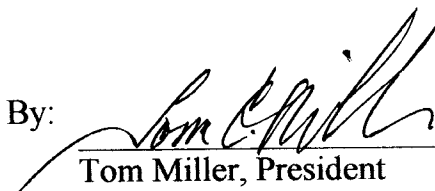
3. **Severability.** If any part, section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Resolution is for any reason held to be invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions.

4. **Effective Date.** This Resolution shall take effect and be enforced immediately upon its approval by the Board and shall be valid until the next regular meeting of the Board, unless earlier terminated, modified, continued or renewed by the Board.

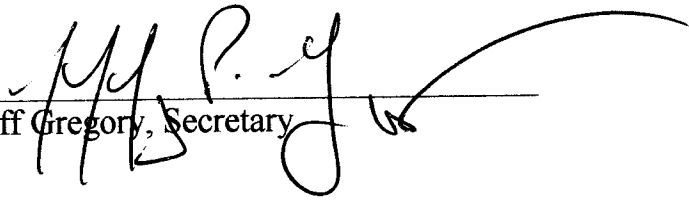
ADOPTED this 25<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.

West Douglas County Fire Protection District

By:

  
Tom Miller, President

Attest:

  
Jeff Gregory, Secretary

Filed with:

Douglas County Clerk and Recorder

Colorado Office of Emergency Management (Attn: Michael J. Willis, Director, 9195 East Mineral Ave., Suite 200, Centennial, CO 80112 Fax: 720.852.6750; mike.willis@state.co.us)

Local Emergency Manager  
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