

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Chelan County, Washington

RESOLUTION NO. 2020 - 32

**A RESOLUTION IN THE MATTER OF AN EMERGENCY DECLARATION
FOR COVID-19 RESPONSE**

WHEREAS, RCW 38.52.070 provides certain emergency powers and procedures to local jurisdictions and government officials to protect the health and safety of persons and property in the face of a disaster or emergency, and

WHEREAS, Chelan County has adopted a Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, (CEMP), as stated in Chelan County Code Chapters 7.14 and 1.380, and as consistent with and authorized by Chapter 38.52 RCW, and

WHEREAS, the CEMP states one of the responsibilities of the county board of commissioners is to adopt and issue a declaration of emergency in order to activate the CEMP and certain emergency powers, and

WHEREAS, the CEMP identifies epidemic disease as a basis for an emergency declaration and activation of the CEMP, and

WHEREAS, COVID-19, a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death, is caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which is a new strain of coronavirus that had not been previously identified in humans and can easily spread from person to person, and

WHEREAS, on January 21, 2020, the Washington State Department of Health confirmed the first case of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in the United States in Snohomish County, Washington, and local health departments and the Washington State Department of Health have since that time worked to identify, contact, and test others in Washington State potentially exposed to COVID-19 in coordination with the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, (CDC), and

WHEREAS, the Center for Disease Control identifies the potential public health threat posed by COVID-19 both globally and in the United States as “very high”, and has advised that person-to-person spread of COVID-19 will continue to occur globally including within the United States and including Chelan County, Washington; and

WHEREAS, On January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services Secretary declared a public health emergency for COVID-19, beginning on January 27, 2020, and

WHEREAS, according to the Washington State Department of Health, as of 5:00 p.m. on Monday, March 16, 2020, there have been 48 deaths and 904 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in this state, and

WHEREAS, on February 29, 2020, Governor Inslee signed Proclamation 20-05 proclaiming that a State of Emergency exists in all counties in Washington State due to the worldwide COVID-19 outbreak, and;

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, Governor Inslee signed Proclamation 20-06 addressing risks to persons living in congregate care settings and imposing certain restrictions on all counties in Washington State, and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Governor Inslee signed Proclamation 20-09 prohibiting all public school districts, charter schools, and private schools from conducting in-person educational, recreational and other K-12 school programs in school facilities in all counties in

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Washington State in effect from 12:01a.m. March 17, 2020 until 12:00 p.m. April 24, 2020, unless extended; and

WHEREAS, Proclamations 20-07, 20-08, and 20-10 signed by Governor Inslee also pertained to the COVID-19 emergency and among other things, directed state agencies to assist all affected political subdivisions, and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Governor Inslee signed Proclamation 20-11 prohibiting public gatherings of 250 people or more in all counties in Washington State to remain in effect until midnight on March 31, 2020, unless extended;

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Governor Inslee signed Proclamation 20-12 prohibiting all public and private universities, colleges, technical schools, apprenticeship programs and similar schools and programs from conducting in-person classes in all counties of Washington State in effect from 12:01 a.m. March 17, 2020 until 12:00 p.m. April 24, 2020, unless extended; and,

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, Governor Inslee signed Proclamation 20-13, prohibiting in all counties in Washington State, until midnight March 31, 2020, the operation of all food and beverage services which allow for on-site consumption resulting in the closure of bars, restaurants, entertainment venues, and recreational facilities, and

WHEREAS, there is an emergency present which necessitates the activation of the Chelan County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan and activation of the Chelan County Emergency Operations Center, and

WHEREAS, the County's declaration of a local emergency will allow the County to undertake emergency purchases pursuant to Chapters 36.32 and 39.04 RCW when such purchases are required to facilitate immediate action in the event of an emergency; and

WHEREAS, the County's declaration of a local emergency allows the County, pursuant to RCW 42.30.070, if, by reason of the declared emergency, there is need for expedited action by a governing body to meet the emergency, the presiding officer of the governing body may provide for a meeting site other than the regular meeting site and the notice requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act shall be suspended during such emergency; and

WHEREAS, the conditions stated above constitute an emergency for Chelan County, necessitating activation of the Chelan County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan and the utilization of emergency powers granted pursuant to RCW 36.40.180, 38.52.070, and 38.52.110.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Chelan County Board of Commissioners hereby declares an emergency exists in Chelan County known as the COVID-19 Emergency. All county officials and agencies are hereby directed to do everything possible to mitigate the effects and transmission of COVID-19. This state of emergency shall remain in effect until midnight on the 30th day following adoption of this declaration, unless extended beyond that date by the Board of County Commissioners. Further explanation of this declaration, emergency authority, and mitigation are:

1. There is hereby declared an emergency, as defined in the Chelan County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan due to the world wide and local outbreak of COVID-19 and for all the reasons stated in the aforesaid Governor's Proclamations.
2. County departments and offices, as designated pursuant to the CEMP are authorized to enter into contracts and incur obligations necessary to combat such emergency to protect the health and

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safety of persons, property, and the environment and provide emergency assistance to the victims of such emergency, consistent with the CEMP. Pursuant to RCW 36.40, RCW 38.52, RCW 39.04 the requirements of competitive bidding and public notice are hereby waived with reference to any contract relating to the lease or purchase of supplies, equipment, personal service or public works as defined by RCW 39.04 or to any contract for the selections and award of professional and/or technical consultant contracts related to the COVID-19 Emergency.

3. Chelan County department directors and elected officials are authorized to make and adjust human resource policies, access by the public, services to the public, office hours, leave usage, and other issues related to employees and/or the public as necessitated and prudent by the threat of and the impacts of COVID-19.


4. Pursuant to RCW 42.03.070, all meetings of the Chelan County Board of Commissioners relating to the COVID-19 emergency are not required to meet the notice requirements, and meeting location restrictions of the Open Public Meetings Act.

5. The declaration of a local emergency set forth herein shall terminate at midnight on the 30th day following adoption of this resolution of declaration, unless extended beyond that date by the Board of County Commissioners.

6. This resolution declaring the COVID-19 Emergency shall become effective immediately.

Dated at Wenatchee, Washington this 17th day of March, 2020.

BOARD OF CHELAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



DOUG ENGLAND, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST: CARLYE BAITY



BOB BUGERT, COMMISSIONER



Clerk of the Board



KEVIN OVERBAY, COMMISSIONER

