STATE OF COLORADO

COUNTY OF GARFIELD

At a special meeting of the Board of County Commissioners for Garfield County, Colorado, held at the County Administration Building in Glenwood Springs on Monday the 23rd day of March, 2020, there were present:

Tom Jankovsky, Commissioner
Mike Samson, Commissioner
John Martin, Commissioner Chairman
Jan Shute, Assistant County Attorney
Kevin Batchelder, County Manager
Jean Alberico, Clerk to the Board

when the following proceedings, among others were had and done, to-wit:

RESOLUTION NO. 2020 -

RESOLUTION CONTINUING THE MARCH 16, 2020 COUNTY DECLARATION OF A LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, Garfield County, State of Colorado is a legal and political subdivision of the State of Colorado for which the Board of County Commissioners (“Board”) is authorized to act; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a highly contagious virus that originated in China and has since spread to numerous countries around the world, including the United States; and

WHEREAS, the virus may cause serious illness or death in certain cases, particularly when the elderly and persons with underlying health conditions contract it; and

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the worldwide outbreak of COVID-19 a public health emergency of international concern, and on March 11, 2020, declared the outbreak a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services declared the virus a public health emergency, and on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, the Governor of Colorado declared a state of emergency for the State of Colorado due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, the Garfield County Public Health Agency issued a Standing Public Health Order that sets forth limitations and standards related to group gatherings designed to slow the spread of the virus and, on March 20, 2020, GCPH issued a subsequent Order deferring to all Public Health Orders issued by the Colorado Department of Public Health and
Environment (CDPHE) and all Executive Orders issued by the Governor of Colorado related to the COVID-19 virus unless otherwise excepted or ordered; and

WHEREAS, Garfield County Public Health has confirmed five cases of COVID-19 within the county and public health experts anticipate that, due to the contagiousness of the illness, Garfield County will continue to see cases of the virus and its transmission within the community; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the Board issued a Declaration of Local Emergency, which by statute may remain in effect for a period of seven (7) days unless continued or renewed in excess of this time period by consent of the Board; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE) issued a public health order closing bars, restaurants, gyms, theaters and casinos effective as of 8:00 a.m. March 17, 2020 for a period of 30 days (“CDPHE Order on Social Distancing”); and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, the Garfield County Public Health Agency issued a Standing Public Health Order relating to Essential Garfield County Government Functions; and

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020, the CDPHE issued Public Health Order #20-23, Implementing Social Distancing measures (CDPHE Order); and

WHEREAS, Garfield County anticipates that without continued vigilance and appropriate action, the numbers of cases within the county will rise, may result in serious illness or death for certain members of the community, and may also have the effect of interrupting the functioning of the community in terms of work attendance, school attendance, and the like, as well as delay recovery; and

WHEREAS, the cost and magnitude of responding to and recovering from the impact of the ensuing event is far in excess of the county's available resources; and

WHEREAS, Colorado law provides for the declaration of a local disaster emergency to assist local governments in responding to and recovering from emergency events, including epidemics; and

WHEREAS, C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709(1) authorizes the principal executive officer of a political subdivision to declare a local disaster emergency and authorizes the continuation of the declaration of a local disaster emergency in excess of seven days, by or with the consent of the governing board of the political subdivision; and
WHEREAS, "[t]he 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." C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709(2); and

WHEREAS, the Board agrees that it is appropriate to continue the Declaration of a Local Disaster Emergency throughout the duration of the CDPHE Order on Social Distancing, as amended, or further action by the Board;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Garfield County, Colorado, as follows:

1. It is hereby determined and declared that the presence of the COVID-19 virus within Garfield County constitutes and continues to be a local disaster emergency that warrants the mobilization of emergency response and the furnishing of aid and assistance.

2. The continuation of the declaration of local disaster emergency is necessary for the public health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the County of Garfield, State of Colorado.

3. This continuation of the declaration of local disaster emergency shall be promptly filed with the Garfield County Clerk and Recorder and with the Colorado Office of Emergency Management and given prompt and general publicity.

4. The declaration of local disaster emergency shall remain in effect for the duration of the CDPHE Order on Social Distancing, as amended, or further action by the Board.

DATED this 23rd day of March, 2020.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF GARFIELD COUNTY, STATE OF COLORADO

ATTEST: By: ______________________________

Clerk to the Board Chairperson
Upon motion duly made and seconded the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the following vote:

- Tom Jankovsky: Aye/No
- Mike Samson: Aye/No
- John Martin: Aye/No
- Commissioners
