

ORDER # 2020-03
Of the Webster County Commission
Re-Affirming a State of Emergency
Requesting Residents of Unincorporated Areas to “Stay-At-Home”

WHEREAS, in December 2019, medical professionals detected a novel coronavirus, now designated as “SARS-CoV-2,” which causes a disease known as “coronavirus disease 2019” abbreviated and popularly known as “COVID-19”; and

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization Director General declared an outbreak of COVID-19 as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern, advising countries to prepare for containment, detection, isolation and case management, contact tracing and prevention of onward spread of the disease; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization Director General characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, the President of the United States declared the COVID-19 outbreak a national emergency; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is spread person to person through direct or close proximate contact and presents an imminent threat of widespread illness and a threat to public health; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, the Webster County Commission adopted Order # 2020-01, stating that there reasonably appears to exist a state of civil emergency which requires a response by the County to protect human life; and

WHEREAS, as of March 20, 2020, the Webster County Commission amended that Order with Order #2020-02, amending prohibiting public gatherings of 10 or more people in the unincorporated areas of Webster County for a period ending April 6, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Greene County and Christian County and several of their constituent municipalities subsequently adopted more stringent Orders, described as “Stay-At-Home” Orders, which generally discourage discretionary activities during set periods of time; and

WHILE, at this time, Webster County has not had any confirmed cases of COVID-19 infection;

NOTWITHSTANDING, it is the judgment of the Webster County Commission that the proximity of counties with confirmed cases and the nature of viral infection continues to present risks which reasonably appear to create a state of civil emergency which requires a response by the County to protect human life.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF WEBSTER COUNTY, MISSOURI, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM AND ORDER, that:

Section 1 – Order # 2020-02 dated March 20, 2020, is hereby repealed effective 12:01 a.m. on March 26, 2020, and this Order # 2020-03 is hereby enacted declaring a state of civil emergency continues exist in the unincorporated areas of Webster County.

Section 2 – The exercise of certain powers granted to County Commissions and County Health Boards in Missouri counties of the third classification by state statute in Section 192.300 appears reasonably necessary due to the local state of civil emergency, and are described in "Exhibit A," which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.

Section 3 – This state of emergency shall expire April 24, 2020 to coincide with actions recently taken by the Missouri Department of Secondary and Elementary Education (DESE) in regard to the closure of area schools. This Order may be extended if necessary, or terminated upon subsequent Order declaring the emergency no longer exists.

Section 4 – A copy of this Order shall be filed in the office of the Webster County Clerk before 5:00pm this date and copies of said Order shall be printed and available for distribution to the public in the Office of the County Clerk.

ADOPTED BY THE WEBSTER COUNTY COMMISSION this 25th day of March, 2020 at 1:30pm.

WEBSTER COUNTY COMMISSION

Paul Ipock
Paul Ipock, Presiding Commissioner

Randy Owens
Randy Owens, Southern Commissioner

Dale Fraker
Dale Fraker, Northern Commissioner

Attest:



WEBSTER COUNTY CLERK

Stan Whitehurst
Stan Whitehurst, County Clerk