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Steve Young
Milam County Judge

ORDER DECLARING A LOCAL STATE OF DISASTER FOR MILAM COUNTY
March 19, 2020

Whereas on January 30, 2020 the World Health Organization Director declared the outbreak of COVID-19 as a public health emergency of International concern, advising countries to prepare for the containment, detection, isolation and case management, contact, tracing and prevention of onward spread of the disease; and

There is no known cure for the virus; and

The only defense to the virus is to prevent the spread of the virus; and

Whereas on March 13, 2020 the United States President declared a National State of Emergency to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus; and

Whereas on March 13, 2020 the Governor of the State of Texas issued a Proclamation declaring that the COVID-19 virus poses an imminent threat of disaster to the citizens of the State of Texas and further declared a State of Disaster for all counties in the State of Texas; and

Whereas there are approximately 200 persons in the State of Texas confirmed to have the virus, located in 29 counties, including, but not limited to Bell, Williamson, Brazos and Travis Counties; and

Whereas the Center for Disease Control recommends that Americans avoid social gatherings of more than 10 persons;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT DECLARED and ORDERED pursuant to the authority granted by the Texas Disaster Act of the Texas Government Code Chapter 418, as follows:

1. That a local state of disaster is hereby declared for Milam County, Texas pursuant to Section 418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code;
2. By this declaration, Milam County's Emergency Management Plan is hereby activated and all other statutory powers vested in me and all officers of Milam County to act in this local state of disaster are activated. This declaration shall also activate all recovery and rehabilitation aspects of all applicable local and interjurisdictional

emergency management plans and authorizes the furnishing of all aid and assistance as deemed necessary or desirable by those administering such plans;

3. By this declaration, I declare all rules and regulations that may inhibit or prevent prompt response to this threat be suspended for the duration of this declaration and any extension thereof;

4. Pursuant to the authority granted to the Milam County Judge under the Texas Disaster Act of the Texas Government Code Chapter 418, I shall exercise any and all necessary powers set out thereunder and I hereby authorize the use of all available resources of state government and political subdivision to assist in Milam County's response to this disaster;

5. Pursuant to the authority granted under the law of the State of Texas, Milam County may take all legal actions necessary to protect the health of persons in Milam County, Texas;

A. It is THEREFORE FURTHER ORDERED AND DECREED that there be no social gatherings of more than 10 persons in Milam County, including service organizations, church functions, sporting activities, gym's, fitness centers and/or civic functions. This does not include all business activities or other essential services.

B. It is THEREFORE FURTHER ORDERED AND DECREED that all public and private schools in the County be closed;

C. It is THEREFORE FURTHER ORDERED AND DECREED that a curfew be imposed on all persons of 18 years of age and younger in Milam County to the extent that each not be in a public place in the County after 9:00 p.m.;

D. All bars and restaurants in the County are to close except for take out service;

E. Every citizen of Milam County is urged to shelter in place to avoid the spread of the deadly COVID-19 virus.

6. A violation of this Declaration and Order is punishable as a Class C Misdemeanor by a fine not to exceed \$1,000.00 and/or confinement to jail for not to exceed 180 days as authorized by Section 418.173 of the Texas Government Code.

7. Pursuant to Section 418.108(c) of the Texas Government Code, this Declaration and Order shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the Milam County Clerk.

8. Pursuant to section 418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code, the state of local disaster shall continue for a period of not more than seven (7) days from the date of this Declaration and Order unless continued or renewed by the Commissioners Court of Milam County, Texas.

This Declaration and Order is adopted this 20th day of March 2020 at 12:01 a.m. and all aspects and requirements set forth herein are effective immediately thereafter.



Steve Young
Milam County Judge