

Proclamation  
Of the County Commission of Hardy County, West Virginia

**Declaration of State of Emergency and Existence of Catastrophic  
Health Emergency-COVID-19**

**WHEREAS**, an outbreak of disease ("COVID-19") caused by the novel coronavirus occurred in Hubei Province, China, in late-2019, and has currently been detected in more than 89 countries, including the United States;

**AND WHEREAS**, COVID-19 is a severe respiratory disease, resulting in illness or death, caused by person-to-person spread of the novel coronavirus, which was not previously found in humans;

**AND WHEREAS**, the novel coronavirus, as a viral agent capable of causing extensive loss of life or serious disability, is a deadly agent;

**AND WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization ("WHO") and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") have declared the COVID-19 outbreak a "public health emergency of international concern";

**AND WHEREAS**, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has declared that COVID-19 creates a public health emergency;

**AND WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared that a state of emergency exists with regard to the threat to the health of our people, throughout the nation;

**AND WHEREAS**, on March 16, 2020, the Governor of West Virginia declared that a state of emergency exists in West Virginia and its counties with regard to the threat posed by the novel coronavirus;

**AND WHEREAS**, the CDC has issued guidance to all state and local governments, and all citizens, recommending preparedness to prevent community spread and guard against the potential of a COVID-19 pandemic;

**AND WHEREAS**, as of March 16, 2020, the CDC found COVID-19 has infected individuals in 49 states, and resulted in a total of 4,740 confirmed and presumed positive cases in the United States causing 85 deaths;

**AND WHEREAS**, while, as of the morning of March 17, 2020, there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in West Virginia, experts are of the opinion that the disease is present and active within West Virginia and that cases may be confirmed and reported within our borders soon;

**AND WHEREAS**, therefore, I find that the transmission of the novel corona virus is a threat to human health in Hardy County and, in an effort to take every precaution and to prepare for the worst case scenario while at the same time hoping for the best possible outcome;

**AND WHEREAS**, the person-to-person spread modeled by the CDC and WHO indicates that extensive loss of life and/or serious illness or disability is threatened imminently in all of West Virginia because of the transmission of novel coronavirus;

**AND WHEREAS**, COVID -19 is a public health catastrophe and public emergency;

**AND WHEREAS**, COVID-19 poses an immediate danger to public safety; and

**AND WHEREAS**, the impending threat to Hardy County by COVID-19 is a catastrophic health emergency requiring deployment of resources and assistance available only from the State of West Virginia and federal government to protect the health and safety of our citizens;

**Now therefore I, Harold K. Michael**, by the virtue of authority vested in me as the **President of the Hardy County Commission**, pursuant to W.Va. Code § 15-5-1, *et seq.* and the Hardy County Emergency Operations Plan, adopted February 5 2019, do hereby find and declare that, a **State of Emergency** exists in Hardy County, West Virginia and hereby activate the Hardy County Emergency Operations Plan and implement the operation of the Hardy County Emergency Operations Center for the coordination of information and resources.

**AND FURTHER**, I declare this State of Emergency in Hardy County, West Virginia to retro and commence on the 18th day of March, Two-Thousand Twenty.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand.

**DONE** at the County Seat, Moorefield, Hardy County, West Virginia, this 2nd day of April Two Thousand Twenty.



Harold K. Michael, President  
Hardy County Commission



**HARDY COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA**

**OFFICE OF THE COMMISSION**

**PROCLAMATION**

**BY THE COMMISSIONERS**

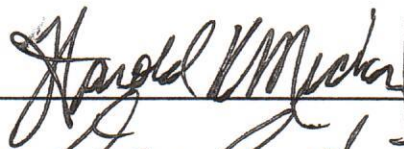


**WHEREAS**, March 13, 2020 until further notice, an outbreak of respiratory disease has caused a novel (new) coronavirus that was first detected in China and which has now been detected in numerous countries internationally, now including the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the effects of this event pose a severe and continuing threat to the health, safety, welfare, and property of the citizens of Hardy County; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with our authority as Commissioners, We have declared a State of Preparedness for Hardy County on this the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March, Two Thousand Twenty.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, HAROLD MICHAEL, DAVID FANSLER AND DAVID WORKMAN**, by virtue of the authority vested in us, as Hardy County Commissioners, in consideration of the situation do hereby **ALLOW** the Hardy County Commission and the Office of Emergency Management to activate the Office of Emergency Management if necessary and to mobilize appropriate personnel and resources as necessary to be able to respond if an Emergency Declaration is declared by the State of West Virginia.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF, DONE** at the County Seat, Moorefield, Hardy County, West Virginia  
This 18<sup>th</sup> day of March, two thousand twenty.

  
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Attest:  Hardy County Clerk

DATE: 3/18/2020