MEETING: March 24, 2020

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Doug Binnewies, Sheriff-Coroner-Public Administrator

RE: Adopt Resolution Ratifying Proclamation of the Existence of a Local Emergency

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Adopt a Resolution Ratifying the March 17, 2020, Proclamation by the Director of Emergency Services of the County of Mariposa, State of California, Proclaiming the existence of a local emergency and requesting state and/or federal funds to assist with recovery efforts.

In December, 2019, a novel corona virus, known as COVID-19, was detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China. Transmission of the virus was rapid and is now considered a global health threat. Under the authority of California Health and Safety Code section 101080, the Mariposa County Health Officer declared a Local Health Emergency on March 13, 2020 due to the detection of COVID-19 within California, which was ratified by the Board on March 17, 2020. The situation has continued to evolve rapidly and the Mariposa County Director of Emergency Services proclaimed a Local Emergency on March 17, 2020.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 8630, whenever a local emergency is proclaimed by an official designated by ordinance, the local emergency shall not remain in effect for a period in excess of seven days unless it has been ratified by the governing Board. Staff is now requesting that the Board ratify the Director's Proclamation of Local Emergency.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

March 17, 2020: The Board ratified the March 13, 2020 Local Health Emergency Declaration. Additionally, the Board has ratified similar proclamations in the past during other emergencies.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

If the Board does not ratify the proclamation, the County will not be eligible for
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possible State or Federal disaster assistance.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

ATTACHMENTS:
Local Emergency Ratification Resolution  (DOCX)
March 17, 2020 COVID-19 Local Emergency Proclamation  (PDF)

RESULT:  ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:  Merlin Jones, District II Supervisor
SECONDER:  Marshall Long, District III Supervisor
AYES:  Smallcombe, Jones, Long, Cann, Menetre
RESOLUTION NO. 20-157

RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE MARCH 17, 2020, PROCLAMATION BY THE DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES OF THE COUNTY OF MARIPOSA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, PROCLAIMING THE EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY AND REQUESTING STATE AND/OR FEDERAL FUNDS TO ASSIST WITH RECOVERY EFFORTS

WHEREAS, California Government Code Section 8630 empowers the Board of Supervisors of any County to proclaim a local emergency when the County is affected or could be affected by a natural or manmade disaster; and

WHEREAS, a novel coronavirus (named “COVID-19”) was first detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China in December 2019 and has since spread to numerous other countries, including the United States; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 causes infectious disease resulting in symptoms of fever, coughing and shortness of breath with outcomes ranging from mild to severe illness and in some cases death; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has determined the virus to be a very serious public health threat, yet the method and efficacy of transmission of the virus is not yet fully understood and no vaccine currently exists; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom proclaimed a State of Emergency to make additional resources available, formalize emergency actions already underway across multiple state agencies and departments and to help prepare the State of California for a broader spread of COVID-19. The State of Emergency also waives the 60-day renewal requirement as normally required by California Government Code Section 8630; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization made the assessment that COVID-19 can be characterized as a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, President Trump issued a National Emergency Declaration to address the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Mariposa County Health Officer, Dr. Eric Sergienko, declared a local Public Health Emergency to assist with securing additional resources as needed and to further formalize local communication and partnership efforts; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff Douglas Binnewies, serving in his capacity as Director of Emergency Services of Mariposa County, proclaimed the existence of a local emergency on March 17, 2020; and

WHEREAS, there are currently no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Mariposa County but local medical care, safety and health professionals continue to coordinate on preparation and response; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors does hereby find that conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property have arisen within Mariposa County caused by this major health event.
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a local emergency now exists throughout Mariposa County and the prior Proclamation of Emergency issued by the Director of Emergency Services is hereby ratified; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that during the existence of the local emergency the powers, functions, and duties of the Director of Emergency Services and the emergency services organization of the County shall be those prescribed by state law, by ordinances, and by resolutions of Mariposa County approved by the Board of Supervisors; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of Mariposa County requests the use of California Disaster Assistance Act (CDAA) funding, Stafford Act funding, other funding sources and other resources should they be made available for local jurisdictional preparation and response to COVID-19; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Governor of the State of California and the State Director of the Office of Emergency Services; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of Emergency Services, or his designee, is hereby designated as the local Hazard Mitigation Coordinator of the County of Mariposa for the purpose of assessing damage within Mariposa County and consulting with federal/state survey teams about hazard mitigation actions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of Emergency Services, or his designee, is hereby designated as the authorized representative for public assistance, and the Director of Emergency Services, or his designee, is hereby designated as the authorized representative for individual assistance to the County of Mariposa for purpose of receipt, processing, and coordination of all inquiries and requirements necessary to obtain available state and federal assistance.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mariposa, a political subdivision of the State of California, this 24th day of March, 2020 by the following vote:

AYES: SMALLCOMBE, JONES, LONG, CANN, MENETREY
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: NONE
ABSTAINED: NONE

KEVIN CANN, Chair
Mariposa County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

STEVEN W. DAHLEM
County Counsel

APPROVED AS TO FORM: