RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2020-179

MEETING: April 7, 2020

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Dallin Kimble, County Administrative Officer

RE: COVID-19 Precautionary Spending Measures

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Adopt a Resolution Implementing Precautionary Spending Measures as a Result of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

On March 13th, 2020, Mariposa County Public Health Officer issued the first of a series of Public Health Orders regarding community actions to contain the spread of COVID-19.

The business and economic impacts, while secondary to the health impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, are and will continue to be significant. Even with a strong start to the fiscal year, staff anticipates net revenue losses in excess of five million dollars before the end of June.

At the same time, the County is spending hundreds of thousands to provide response and recovery services and support remote operations. While the state of emergency across California and our nation suggests that many of these expenses will ultimately be reimbursed, they do create pressure on our available funds in the meantime.

Implementing this resolution formalizes direction to department heads to avoid non-essential expenses until further actions can be taken to minimize negative financial consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic. Staff recommends this approach as an appropriate immediate response to ensure the long-term health of County finances and support for important community services.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

Resolution 2020-144: COVID-19 Health Emergency Declaration

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

Modify or do not approve. More significant measures may be needed in the future.
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FINANCIAL IMPACT:
Staff is continuing to evaluate the financial implications of the COVID-19 pandemic. These measures are designed to reduce spending as a way of mitigating expected losses.

ATTACHMENTS:
COVID-19 Spending Measures Resolution - Revised (DOCX)

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Marshall Long, District III Supervisor
SECONDER: Merlin Jones, District II Supervisor
AYES: Smallcombe, Jones, Long, Cann, Menetrey
STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
COUNTY OF MARIPOSA  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  

RESOLUTION NO. 20-179

RESOLUTION IMPLEMENTING PRECAUTIONARY SPENDING MEASURES AS A RESULT OF A LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY CAUSED BY COVID-19

WHEREAS, the Director of Emergency Services proclaimed the existence of a local state of emergency due to COVID-19 on March 17, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors ratified the proclamation of a local state of emergency on March 24, 2020; and

WHEREAS, significant business slowing and closures due to COVID-19 are anticipated to create budget shortfalls in the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 budget; and

WHEREAS, the County of Mariposa seeks to be good stewards of public resources, employ the best professional practices for fiscal management, and protect resources needed for response to and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and its effects;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the following precautionary spending measures are effective immediately:

- Fixed assets that have not already been purchased and are not required for the County’s response to COVID-19 shall not be purchased in the current fiscal year;
- Savings created by the suspension or closure of services shall be preserved and not spent on any other expenditure not related to the response to COVID-19;
- Professional services expenditures will be frozen such that County-funded projects that are not yet started shall be paused or delayed;
- Recruitment for County-funded, non-essential staff shall be paused.

Exceptions to this resolution must be approved by the County Administrative Officer.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mariposa, a political subdivision of the State of California, this 7th day of April, 2020, by the following vote:

AYES: SMALLCOMBE, JONES, LONG, CANN, MENETREY
NOES: NONE
ABSTAINED: NONE
EXCUSED: NONE
KEVIN CANN, Chair
Mariposa County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

RENÉ LaROCHE
Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

STEVEN W. DAHLEM
County Counsel