



STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF LONG

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-R-003

A RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE FOR THE OPERATION OF LONG COUNTY DURING THE PUBLIC EMERGENCY OF THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS COVID-19 DISEASE 2019 GLOBAL PANDEMIC; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the Long County Board of Commissioners are charged with the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the Long County, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, on Friday, March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a National Public Health Emergency; and

WHEREAS, on Saturday, March 14, 2020, the Governor of the State of Georgia declared a State Emergency in Georgia; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization has also declared Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) a world health emergency and a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the novel corona virus disease 2019 global pandemic is a public emergency affecting and threatening life, health, property, and public peace; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Center for Disease Control has declared that avoiding public assembly and otherwise engaging in “social distancing⁹⁵ is an effective way to slow or prevent transmission of the disease; and

WHEREAS, the Governor’s declaration of emergency authorizes counties to use emergency powers in O.C.G.A. §§ 38-3-1 through 38-3-64. O.C.G.A. § 38-3-51(b); and

WHEREAS, O.C.G.A. § 38-3-28 provides counties the authority to make, amend, and/or rescind

orders, rules, and regulations as necessary for emergency purposes and to supplement carrying out the emergency management laws; and

WHEREAS, in order to slow and prevent the transmission of the disease, the Long County Board of Commissioners hereby desire to enact certain provisions and changes to the immediate operations of the County.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Long County Board of Commissioners hereby declare that an emergency affecting life, health, property, and public peace exists within the Long County, Georgia (“County”) due to the novel corona virus disease 2019 (“COVID-19”) global pandemic; as such the Long County Board of Commissioners hereby shall adjust County operations as follows:

1. All Long County Board of Commissioners meetings to include the regular April meeting are canceled until further notice.
2. All county buildings, with the exception of the tax office which will be drive through only, will be closed until further notice. All offices will be able to be reached by phone via call forwarding or voice mail and ESSENTIAL services will not be interrupted.
3. All non essential services will be handled on a case by case basis
4. All late car registration fees will be waived and no expired registration citations will be issued by local law enforcement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT This Resolution Confirms Continuity of Long County Government Operations. All ordinances, laws and rules and regulations of the County will continue to operate subject to the following;

- 1) Functions of the Board of Commissioners that customarily involve public input and participation (i.e., strategic plans, ordinances, land use planning functions, visioning, development of county-wide objectives and goals, and like activities) shall be suspended through April 30, 2020 except for policy-making and ordinance functions directly related to addressing COVID-19 and related public health and safety issues;
- 2) All zonings, variances, and other land-use decision-making shall be suspended through April 30, 2020;
- 3) All non-essential business (i.e.” proclamations, presentations, public input) shall be suspended through April 30, 2020;
- 4) Contract, budgeting, and fiscal operations **shall continue** in the ordinary course of business;
- 5) Public hearings - All matters requiring a public hearing before the Board of Commissioners, or other Boards appointed by the Board Commissioners, including but not limited to zonings, special use permits, variances, and regulatory permits (i.e., alcohol) are hereby stayed through April 30, 2020. After April 30, 2020, or any earlier termination by the Board, the scheduling of hearing shall resume in the ordinary course of business barring further extension of this resolution. County staff are directed to work with applicants and those otherwise affected by this stay to ensure that financial impact and/or disruptions to business function is kept to a minimum; and
- 6) Existing regulatory permits - If there are in effect existing regulatory permits that require a public hearing prior to renewal or extension, and that will lapse in the absence of such renewal or extension, then such permits shall be extended and remain in full force and effect until such time as public hearings are resumed; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the term of this resolution shall be active from March 22, 2020 until April 30, 2020, or until lifted by the Long County Board of Commissioners.

SO RESOLVED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 22TM day of March, 2020.



(Seal)

By: 
Robert D. Parker, Chairman

Attest: 
Brandi Smiley, Deputy County Clerk