RESOLUTION 2020-02
DECLARING A STATE OF EMERGENCY IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

Whereas: The World Health Organization (WHO) has declared that COVID-19 Virus is a worldwide pandemic; and

Whereas: On March 11, 2020 New Mexico Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham proclaimed a public health emergency and invoked all powers under the All Hazard Emergency Act, NMSA 1978 Subsections 12-10-1 through 12-10-10 for a minimum period of 30 days; and

Whereas: The CDC has advised that local governments should take immediate action to limit the spread of the virus through social distancing, cancellation of public meetings, limiting public gatherings and events, and implementing additional measures to prevent, contain, and mitigate the virus; and

Whereas: The outbreak of COVID-19 and the effect of its extreme contagion significantly impacts the life and health of our people as well as the economy of the Village of Jemez Springs and is a public disaster that negatively affects life, health, property, and the public peace; and

Whereas: The Village of Jemez Springs has had to close facilities, and create alternatives to many of its programs; and

Whereas: Cancellation of traditional format meetings potentially delays the progress of internal work operations; and

Whereas: The need to address the decrease in staff in order to comply with the “Stay-At-Home” Order will cause an increased probability of undue human suffering and hardship and threaten the safety, health, welfare, and well-being of citizens and the economic functions of the Village and surrounding areas; and

Whereas: Without assistance, the Village will likely not have the resources to completely and effectively address continued response to the needs associated with the COVID-19 outbreak, particularly those needs of our first responders in the Jemez Springs Police Department, our Volunteer Fire Department, and other essential functions;
Now Therefore Be It Resolved that: The Village of Jemez Springs is hereby declared to be under a State of Emergency for the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic for the purposes of seeking reimbursement of all actual and eligible Category B (Emergency Protective Measures) costs, for the purpose of exercising necessary emergency powers, expenditure of available resources and requesting aid, assistance, and participating in any relief programs that may be available from the State of New Mexico and the Federal Government.

Furthermore Be It Resolved that: Village public events, trainings, and meetings and all such similar gatherings planned to be held in or on Village Property are hereby cancelled until further notice with the status to be re-evaluated periodically. Instead, the Village will pursue and implement live-streaming, telecommuting and alternative technologies that can help work continue while we follow commonsense cautions to slow the spread of the virus.

Furthermore Be It Resolved that: The Governing Body may use virtual meetings for time-sensitive matters. These virtual meetings will be held in accordance with the newest guidelines from the Office of the Attorney General's Open Government Division to ensure compliance with the Open Meetings Act.

Furthermore Be It Resolved that: The Village shall follow and support efforts made by Sandoval County, the State of New Mexico, and the Federal Government to slow the spread of COVID-19 and operate in cooperation with the county wide emergency plan.

Approved this 30 day of March, 2020 at the Special Meeting of the Village Council.

Roger Sweet, Mayor

Attest:

Yvonne Dickey, Clerk/Treasurer