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RATIFICATION LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER

Whereas, UCA §26A-1-101 grants the Health Department jurisdiction in all unincorporated and incorporated areas of the county and San Juan County Health Regulation 1 §4.4.1 provides that the County Health Officer may invoke temporary regulations in an emergency;

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020 Health Officer Kirk Bengte proclaimed a Public Health Emergency in San Juan County, Utah;

WHEREAS, on March 26, 2020 the Utah Department of Health reported 402 cases in Utah, including one death;

WHEREAS, as of March 26, 2020 the CDC indicates there are over 68,000 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the United States, including 994 deaths;

WHEREAS, On March 11, the COVID-19 outbreak was characterized as a global pandemic by the World Health Organization

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar declared a public health emergency for COVID-19, beginning on January 27, 2020;

WHEREAS, on March 6, 2020 Governor Gary Herbert issued a The Declaration of State Emergency for the State of Utah;

WHEREAS, on March 25, 2020, the Navajo Department of Health reported 69 confirmed cases within the Navajo Nation;

WHEREAS, San Juan County lacks jurisdiction to enforce involuntary quarantines on Tribal Lands and will require State, Federal, and Tribal cooperation to provide such necessary services to county citizens on Tribal Lands;

WHEREAS, San Juan County hospitals and clinics are limited to five (5) isolations rooms to treat severe or serious cases in the event of sustained community transmission of COVID-19 in San Juan County, Utah;

WHEREAS, the circumstances of a local COVID-19 outbreak may exceed the capacity of the services, personnel, equipment, supplies and facilities of San Juan County, and require the combined forces of a mutual aid region or regions to combat;

WHEREAS, preliminary evidence suggests that communities that are taking decisive actions are seeing significant reductions in morbidity and mortality compared to nations and communities that have delayed implementation of proven public health intervention strategies;

THEREFORE, PURSUANT TO UCA §26A-1-114 and San Juan County Health Regulation 1 §4.4.5, BE IT DECLARED BY THE SAN JUAN COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Declaration of Local Public Health Emergency. It is hereby declared that there is a local public health emergency affecting San Juan County, Utah, which exceeds the resources of the community, and assistance is requested from both the State of Utah and the federal government to provide all necessary resources to combat such emergency to protect the residents of San Juan County and provide emergency assistance.

Section 2. Duration. This declaration of a local public health emergency shall remain in effect until termination of the state of emergency declared by Governor Herbert in Executive Order 2020-1, or until rescinded or extended by the San Juan County Board of Health

Section 3. Publication. This declaration of a local public health emergency shall be on file for public inspection with the San Juan County Health Department.

Section 4. Notice to Governor. A copy of this declaration of a local public health emergency shall be sent to the Office of the Governor of the State of Utah.

Effective Date: 4/2/2020



Kd Perkins
Chair of the San Juan County Board of Health

Approved as to Form: Kendall G. Laws

Kendall G. Laws
County Attorney