

LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY DECLARATION
FOR
WILLIAMS COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA
April 7, 2020



WHEREAS, Williams County, North Dakota continues to monitor COVID-19 activity;

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a severe respiratory illness that is spread from person to person, posing a threat to the health and safety of the residents of Williams County;

WHEREAS, no drug or vaccine is currently available to treat or prevent COVID-19;

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, US Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Alex M. Azar II declared a public health emergency for the United States to aid the nation's health care community responding to COVID-19;

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, United States President Donald Trump proclaimed that the COVID-19 outbreak in the United States constitutes a national emergency, beginning March 1, 2020;

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, State of North Dakota Governor Doug Burgum issued Executive Order 2020-03 declaring a state of emergency within North Dakota in response to the public health crisis related to COVID-19;

WHEREAS, as of the date of this declaration, the State of North Dakota has more than 100 confirmed positive cases of COVID-19, with Williams County receiving its first two positive cases for COVID-19 on March 31, 2020;

WHEREAS, the impact of COVID-19 and cascading events threatens the health, well-being, and safety of citizens in Williams County;

WHEREAS, Williams County departments and offices are undergoing efforts to mitigate activity through employee education, reviewing continuity of services, and purchasing supplies for increased cleaning efforts and virus protection;

WHEREAS, the mitigation efforts may have a serious financial effect in excess of Williams County resources due to the unknown COVID-19 duration; and

WHEREAS, N.D.C.C. Chapter 37-17.1 authorizes counties to declare a local state of emergency order, and state and local jurisdictions may work cooperatively to address emergency situations;

WHEREAS, on March 31, 2020, the Williams County Board of County Commissioners declared a local state of emergency pursuant to its authority under N.D.C.C. Chapter 37-17.1; and

WHEREAS, Williams County is authorized to use its emergency fund for emergency purposes and/or emergencies as stated in N.D.C.C. § 57-15-28.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Williams County Board of County Commissioners, in response to the public health crisis resulting from COVID-19, and the emergency caused thereby, pursuant to the authority under N.D.C.C. Chapter 37-17.1 and N.D.C.C. § 57-15-20 and by majority vote of the elected commissioners, hereby continues its declaration of a local state of emergency effective in and throughout Williams County, North Dakota, including, to the extent permitted by law, all incorporated cities and other political subdivisions within Williams County, until further notice, and authorizes expenditures out of the Williams County emergency fund or any other available source for, or in response to, the local emergency resulting from COVID-19 and/or related emergency purposes.

DATED this 7th day of April, 2020.



Steve Kemp, Chairman
Williams County Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST:



Beth M. Innis, Williams County Auditor

WILLIAMS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

First District – Beau Anderson | Second District – Steve Kemp | Third District – Cory Hanson
Fourth District – David Montgomery | Fifth District – Barry Ramberg

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