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**TORRANCE COUNTY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
RESOLUTION NO. R 2020-15**

**EMERGENCY DECLARATION RELATING TO THE COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS  
OUTBREAK**

**WHEREAS**, on January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020 the Chinese government confirmed a cluster of cases in Wuhan China were in fact, cases of 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) commonly referred to COVID-19 or Coronavirus; and

**WHEREAS**, by January 21, 2020 the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) had confirmed the first travel related case of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020 the State of New Mexico announced its first three cases of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, later that same day, Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham proclaimed a public health emergency and invoked all powers under the All Hazard Emergency Act, NMSA 1978 § 12-10-1 through 12-10-10, for a minimum of thirty (30) days; and

**WHEREAS**, by March 17<sup>th</sup>, the number of cases had grown to 23 in the State of New Mexico; and

**WHEREAS**, the counties with reported cases include Socorro, Santa Fe, Bernalillo, Sandoval, and Taos counties; and

**WHEREAS**, counties which have confirmed cases of COVID-19 have experienced large increases in requests for Emergency Services (EMS); and

**WHEREAS**, to date, Torrance County has had no reported confirmed cases of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, the public should take all necessary precautions to avoid contact with individuals who may have contracted COVID-19; and

1           **WHEREAS**, it is the responsibility of the Torrance County Board of Commissioners to  
2 respond to the direct and indirect effects of the COVID-19 crisis in order to protect the health,  
3 safety, and welfare of the citizens of Torrance County;

4           **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the governing body of TORRANCE  
5 COUNTY that the Torrance County Board of Commissioners does hereby declare Torrance  
6 County an emergency an emergency area as a result of the COVID-19 virus outbreak pursuant to  
7 NMSA 1978 § 12-10-01 through 12-10-21, for the express purpose of exercising necessary  
8 emergency powers and expenditure of available resources, and requesting aid, assistance, and  
9 relief programs and funds available from the State of New Mexico.

10           County departments are hereby directed to utilize County resources and to do everything  
11 reasonably possible to assist affected political subdivisions including Moriarty, Estancia,  
12 Willard, Encino, Mountainair, and the County's Land Grant communities, in an effort to respond  
13 to and recover from the outbreak; and

14           It is the responsibility of Torrance County officials to control County resources and  
15 manage and coordinate those resources for the purpose of controlling the spread of COVID-19  
16 and maintain public health; and

17           The County Manager may implement all necessary and proper measures to allow for  
18 flexibility of time and location of work, including for offsite and telecommuting for all  
19 employees during the period of this emergency as well as expanding the use of sick leave and  
20 unpaid leave where necessary.

21           This Declaration may be adopted by any municipality within the County by resolution.  
22 Any such action may include a provision authorizing its mayor or chief executive to take such  
23 action regarding its personnel as deemed appropriate by its governing body.

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DONE THIS 25<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MARCH, 2020.

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APPROVED AS TO FORM ONLY:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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[Signature] 3/25/2020  
County Attorney                      Date

[Signature]  
Ryan Schwebach, Chair

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[Signature]  
Javier Sanchez, Vice Char

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[Signature]  
Kevin McCall, Member

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ATTEST:

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[Signature]  
Linda Jaramillo, County Clerk

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Date: 3/25/2020

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