

# RESOLUTION 2020-05

## DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY RELATED TO NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

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

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, Governor Jared Polis declared a State of Disaster Emergency as the number of identified COVID-19 cases in Colorado and in the United States increased and announced numerous emergency measures to protect public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, the City of Creede is monitoring the outbreak of COVID-19 and taking steps to help limit the spread of the disease and prepare for impacts to our community; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 2, Article VII of the City of Creede Municipal Code and C.R.S. § 24-33.5-701, *et seq.* authorize the Mayor of the City of Creede to declare an emergency to exist when there is extreme likelihood or danger of destruction of life or property due to unusual conditions; and

WHEREAS, the cost and magnitude of responding to and recovery from the impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic may be far in excess of the Town's available resources; and

WHEREAS, declaration of a local disaster emergency will assist and permit access to local emergency funds, Federal and State assistance, adjustments to policies, procedures, and ordinances to ensure the public's health and welfare; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate and in the interests of the public health and safety of the Town and its residents to rapidly address community spread of COVID-19 and subsequent cascading impacts, such as economic distress, and to further protect the health and safety of the public by declaring an emergency in the City of Creede; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor of the City of Creede, as principal elected official of the City of Creede, is authorized to unilaterally declare a local disaster pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709 and Article VII of the City of Creede Municipal Code, to activate the emergency management and operations plans and resolutions of the Town and to make certain findings with respect to the operation of Town business during such emergency.

BE IT NOW THEREFORE, THAT THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF CREEDE  
DECLARES AS FOLLOWS:

1. That there hereby exists a state of emergency with respect to the outbreak of COVID-19 and during such time, the Mayor and Town Administrator are hereby authorized to take such actions as necessary to prevent destruction of life or property. This declaration of local

disaster emergency shall be in effect for seven (7) days unless extended by resolution of the Board of Trustees upon a determination that the emergency conditions continue to exist.

2. The effect of this Declaration shall be to activate the response and recovery aspects of any and all applicable local and inter-jurisdictional disaster emergency plans and to authorize the furnishing of aid and assistance under such plans, and for the Mayor, Town Administrator, and other appropriate Town staff to exercise those functions and be vested with such authority as set forth in Article VIII of the City of Creede Municipal Code and C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709.

3. In connection with this declaration of emergency, there are hereby issued the following directives:

a. The Mayor and Town Administrator are hereby authorized to postpone or cancel any and all Town-sponsored events and meetings.

b. The Mayor and Town Administrator are hereby authorized to close or limit public access to Town-owned facilities, including Town Hall.

c. The Mayor and Town Administrator are hereby authorized to cause any or all public meetings of the Board of Trustees, Planning and Zoning Commission and other Town boards and committees to be conducted by telephone or other electronic means. Further, the Town Administrator shall take reasonable and practical measures to ensure that each such meeting is open to the public at all times, and information is provided to enable the public to participate in such meetings by telephone or other electronic means.

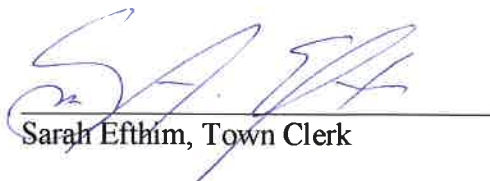
d. The Mayor and Town Administrator may take such other actions they deem necessary for the immediate preservation of health and safety during the COVID-19 outbreak.

DATED this 18 day of March, 2020.

CITY OF CREEDE, COLORADO

  
Jeffrey Larson, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Sarah Eftim, Town Clerk