## COUNTY OF FREESTONE, TEXAS COUNTY JUDGE DECLARATION OF LOCAL STATE OF DISASTER DUE TO PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, a novel coronavirus, now designated SARS-CoV2 which causes the disease COVID-19, has been declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organization; and

**WHEREAS**, the symptoms of COVID-19 can range from mild to severe illness and cause further complications including death; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 virus mainly spreads between people who are in close contact with one another through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Governor of the State of Texas issued a proclamation certifying that COVID-19 poses an imminent threat of disaster in the state and declaring a state of disaster for all counties in Texas; and

WHEREAS, Freestone County, Texas, is taking extraordinary measures to prevent the spread of this potentially devastating disease in our community; and

WHEREAS, said state of disaster requires that certain emergency protective measures be taken pursuant to the Texas Disaster Act of 1975 relating to Emergency Management and Public Health, pursuant to Chapter 418 of the Texas Government Code.

## NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNTY JUDGE OF FREESTONE COUNTY, TEXAS:

- 1. That a local state of disaster for public health emergency is hereby declared for Freestone County, Texas, pursuant to Section 418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code.
- **2.** That pursuant to Section 418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code the state of disaster for public health emergency shall continue for a period of not more than seven (7) days from the date of this declaration, unless approved by the Commissioners Court of Freestone County, Texas.
- **3.** That pursuant to Section 418.108(c) of the Texas Government Code this declaration of a local state of disaster for public health emergency shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk.
- **4.** That pursuant to Section 418.108(d) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster activates the Freestone County, Texas, emergency operations plan and authorizes the furnishing of aid and assistance under the declaration.

- **5.** That citizens of Freestone County, Texas continue to follow the directives as provided by the Governor's office and by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention in order to protect the health and welfare of the citizens of Freestone County, Texas.
- **6.** That this declaration shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance, and upon approval by the Comissioners Court, shall continue in effect until terminated by the County Judge.
- 7. Pursuant to this declaration, additional directives may be issued by the County Judge at any time as deemed necessary.

DECLARED this \_\_\_\_\_/ 8 \_\_\_\_ day of March, 2020.

Linda K. Grant, County Judge Freestone County, Texas