

RESOLUTION

NO: 2021-03-040

LIVINGSTON COUNTY

DATE: March 22, 2021

Resolution Authorizing Livingston County to Declare a Local State of Emergency - Emergency Management

WHEREAS, Livingston County has been impacted by the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death; and

WHEREAS, Livingston County must be able to continue government and business operations safely, without posing a danger to the public or county officials; and

WHEREAS, On October 16, 2020 Senate Bill 1108 extended the ability to hold public meetings electronically / virtually through December 31, 2020 and retroactively from March 18, 2020;

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 1108 further states that between January 1, 2021 and December 31, 2021, public meetings may be held electronically / virtually if there is declared a statewide or local state of emergency or state of disaster as described in section 3(2); and,

WHEREAS, On December 23, 2020, Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer signed into law Senate Bill 1246, extending the authority for public bodies to conduct electronic "virtual" meetings for any reason through March 31, 2021.; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 1246 has not been amended and will expire on March 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Livingston County, as of March 8, 2021, has experienced 9,439 confirmed cases of COVID 19; 140 confirmed COVID 19 related deaths; and cases are expected to continue through spring of 2021; and

WHEREAS, Livingston County has received an insufficient amount of vaccine to address all currently eligible, groups and vaccinations for the general public may not be available for several months.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Livingston County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes a Local Declaration of Emergency in order to protect the safety, health, and wellbeing of the public and government officials while conducting business utilizing an electronic / virtual platform to hold public meetings, and meet the requirements of the Michigan Open Meetings Act.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners be authorized to sign the Local Declaration of Emergency for Livingston County. The Local Declaration will cover all local jurisdictions within Livingston County to conduct public meetings utilizing electric / virtual platforms. The Signed Local Declaration shall be submitted to Michigan State Police Emergency Management Division by the Livingston County Emergency Management Coordinator, and filed with the Livingston County Clerk's Office.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that due to the prolonged nature of this event, this emergency declaration may remain in effect until May 31, 2021 or when the board acts to terminate or extend the state of emergency.

#

MOVED: J. Gross
SECONDED: C. Griffith
CARRIED: Roll Call Vote: Yes (5): J. Gross, C. Griffith, K. Lawrence, C. Reader, and B. Plank;
No (4): W. Nakagiri, D. Helzerman, J. Drick, and M. Zajac; Absent (0): None