THE HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN: respectfully recommends the adoption of the following:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Michigan Public Act 390 of 1976 authorizes and vests the power in the Chairperson of the Board of Commissioners “[t]o declare a local state of emergency if circumstances within the county or municipality indicate that the occurrence or threat of widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property from a natural or human-made cause exists.”; and

WHEREAS, on May 28, 2020, the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of Berrien County extended the originally declared local state of emergency (March 26, 2020) until June 19, 2020 under Berrien Co. Emergency Order (B.C. E.O. 2020-4) for the response to a pandemic emergency causing deadly respiratory illness in Michigan (COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, Michigan Public Act 390 of 1976, Section 10, explains the term of a local state of emergency declared by the chief executive official county [s]hall not be continued or renewed for a period in excess of 7 days except with the consent of the governing body of the county or municipality; and

WHEREAS, the Berrien County Emergency Operations Plan (“Plan”) details the actions taken when an emergency occurs in Berrien County including but not limited to declaring a Local State of Emergency; “as necessary, appropriate and expend funds” (Annex A of the Plan); and organize and direct local and county disaster relief forces; and

WHEREAS, the conditions described in the previously written declarations of emergency still exist in Berrien County and it is expected that Berrien County will need to expand the number of days under the Local State of Emergency until at least Friday, July 10, 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Berrien County Board of Commissioners authorizes and ratifies the action taken by the Chief Executive Officer to renew and extend the local state of emergency declaration issued on March 26, 2020, then extended on April 2, 2020, April 30, 2020, and again on May 28, 2020; and execute all of the powers delegated to the Chief Executive under Michigan Public Act 390 of 1976 and all duties enumerated in the Berrien County Emergency Operations Plan; to include but not be limited to expending funds, through July 10, 2020, if not before, by action of this Board.

Respectfully submitted,
Berrien County Board of Commissioners

William J. Chickering, PHS Chair
Mamie L. Yarbrough, Finance Chair
Michael J. Majerek

R. McKinley Elliott, Chair
Jim Curran, Admin Chair
Teri Sue Freehling

Ezra A. Scott, Vice Chair
Don Meeks
Robert P. Harrison

Chris Heugel

David Vollrath

Jon Hinkelman
Berrien County Emergency Order

B.C. E.O. 2020-5

PROCLAMATION OF LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY (COVID-19)

TO: The Honorable Gretchen Whitmer, Governor, State of Michigan;
      Michigan State Police EMHSD 5th District Coordinator;

CC: The People of the State of Michigan;
      Commanding Officer - Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division (EMHSD),
      Department of State Police;
      Michigan State Police Post 53 Commander.

FM: County of Berrien Board of Commissioners;
      Berrien County Emergency Operations Center.


WHEREAS, Michigan Public Act 390 of 1976 authorizes and vests the power in the Chairperson of the Board of Commissioner "[t]o declare a local state of emergency if circumstances within the county or municipality indicate that the occurrence or threat of widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property from a natural or human-made cause exists."

WHEREAS, On March 26, 2020, the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of Berrien County declared a state of emergency under Berrien Co. Emergency Order (B.C. E.O. 2020-1) for the response to a pandemic emergency causing deadly respiratory illness in Michigan (COVID-19) for a period of 7 days; and

WHEREAS, Michigan Public Act 390 of 1976, Section 10, explains the term of a local state of emergency declared by the chief executive official of a county [s]hall not be continued or renewed for a period in excess of 7 days except with the consent of the governing body of the county or municipality; and

WHEREAS, on April 2, 2020, the Berrien County Board of Commissioners decided to give the Chairperson of the Board the consent necessary to extend the local state of emergency declaration for the period beginning April 2, 2020 and ending April 30, 2020.

WHEREAS, on April 30, 2020, the Berrien County Board of Commissioners decided to give the Chairperson of the Board the consent necessary to extend the local state of emergency declaration for the period beginning April 30, 2020 and ending May 31, 2020.
WHEREAS, on May 27, 2020, the Berrien County Board of Commissioners decided to give the Chairperson of the Board the consent necessary to extend the local state of emergency declaration for the period beginning May 27, 2020 and ending June 19, 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, as the Chairman of the County Board of Commissioners of Berrien County, in accordance with Section 10 of Act 390, P.A. 1976, as amended, I do hereby proclaim that a state of emergency exists in Berrien County and all governmental subunits therein, and I order the following actions to be implemented; if not already so done, for the response effort specific to COVID-19:

1. This local state of emergency declared under my original order of BC EO 2020-01 shall continue for a period ending July 10, 2020 as consented to by the Berrien County Board of Commissioners, unless I announce by order to suspend the emergency declaration prior to July 10, 2020.
2. All orders, conditions, and direction provided in my original order of BC EO 2020-01 remain valid until July 10, 2020 and are incorporated by reference into this order (BC EO 2020-5).
3. This declaration shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

ORDERED this 18th day of June, 2020.

Deputy Clerk
Sign (if needed): _________________________ Date: _________________________

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