DECLARATION

of Local Emergency by the Local Director of Emergency Management due to Coronavirus (COVID-19) and Consent of the Board of Supervisors of Warren County

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Virginia is monitoring an outbreak of a respiratory illness referred to as the coronavirus (COVID-19), which has spread from Wuhan, Hubei Province, China to more than 80 other locations internationally, including the Commonwealth. The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) has been working with local, state, and federal officials, healthcare and emergency management experts, and various state agencies to form a COVID-19 Taskforce to prepare for and respond to this threat. Given recent confirmed occurrences of COVID-19 within the Commonwealth and in neighboring states/localities, as well as information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, it is anticipated that the disease will continue to spread; and

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia declared a state of emergency in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national emergency in the United States of America.

THEREFORE, the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, Walter J. Mabe, is the Local Director of Emergency Management, (the “Local Director”) and declares that a local emergency exists in Warren County pursuant to Code of Virginia § 44-146.21.

THEREFORE, the Warren County Board of Supervisors consents to the Local Director’s declaration of local emergency in Warren County pursuant to Code of Virginia § 44-146.21. Warren County must continue to prepare and coordinate our response to the potential spread of COVID-19, a communicable disease of public health threat. The anticipated effects of COVID-19 constitute a disaster as described in § 44-146.16 of the Code of Virginia (Code). Accordingly, the Local Director and the Board of Supervisors directs Warren County to render appropriate assistance to prepare for this event, to alleviate any conditions resulting from the situation, and to implement recovery and mitigation operations and activities so as to return impacted areas to pre-event conditions as much as possible. Emergency services shall be conducted in accordance with § 44-146.13 et seq. of the Code of Virginia.

In order to marshal all public resources and appropriate preparedness, response, and recovery measures, the Local Director and Board of Supervisors orders, concurs and consents to the following actions:
A. Implementation by County and local agencies of the Warren County, Virginia Emergency Operations Plan, as amended, along with other appropriate County and local plans.

B. Activation (as required) of the Warren County Emergency Operations Center, as directed by the Director of Emergency Services/Coordinator of Emergency Services, to coordinate the provision of assistance to County, and local governments and to facilitate emergency services assignments to other agencies.

C. Authorization for the heads of Departments, on behalf of the County and local governments as appropriate, and with the concurrence of the County Administrator/Town Manager, to waive any County/local requirement or regulation, and enter into contracts without regard to normal procedures or formalities, and without regard to application or permit fees or royalties. All waivers issued by the County/local agencies shall be posted on their websites.

D. Authorization of a maximum of $200,000.00 in County sum sufficient funds for County and local government mission assignments and County/local response and recovery operations authorized and coordinated through the County Administrator, and direction to seek to recover such funds pursuant to the Stafford Act, 42 U.S.C. § 5121 et seq.

This Declaration and consent shall be effective until amended or rescinded by further Declaration. The Declaration will continue until such time as the Board of Supervisors feels that the local situation does not warrant continuance of the State of Emergency due to the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).

BE IT FURTHER DECLARED and ordered that during the existence of this emergency the powers, functions, and duties of the Director of Emergency Services and the Coordinator of Emergency Services of Warren County shall be those prescribed by the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia and the ordinances, resolutions, and approved plans of Warren County in order to mitigate the effects of said emergency.

Adopted: March 17, 2020

Walter J. Mabe
Local Director of Emergency Management

Walter J. Mabe, Chairman
Warren County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Douglas P. Stanley, Clerk
Warren County Board of Supervisors