

City of Palouse, Washington

Emergency Proclamation 2020-01

WHEREAS, the State of Washington, along with much of the world, is experiencing an outbreak of the Novel Coronavirus, known as COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death and is easily spread from person to person; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Public Health and Human Services Secretary declared a public emergency for the 2019 Novel Coronavirus beginning on January 27, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on February 29, 2020, Governor Inslee proclaimed a state of emergency (Proclamation 20-05) for all counties in Washington State due to the spread of COVID-19 and directed that the plans and procedures of the Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan be implemented; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, the Department of Public Health announced new guidance on reducing the risk of exposure to COVID-19 which may restrict government functions; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, President Donald Trump declared a national emergency for the United States due to the COVID-19 health threat; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the Whitman County Board of Commissioners signed a proclamation of emergency due to the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020, Governor Inslee amended and superceded Emergency Proclamation 20-25 and all amendments thereto with a proclamation to impose a Stay Home - Stay Healthy Order for all people in Washington State.

WHEREAS, measures must be taken to protect public health, safety and welfare of City residents, visitors, and staff; and

WHEREAS, additional resources may be required in response to the COVID-19 outbreak; and

WHEREAS, the City may require supplemental assistance; and

WHEREAS, the severity of this event may go beyond the capability of local resources and the duration of the event is unknown; and

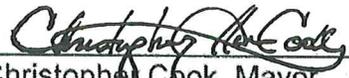
WHEREAS, the existing conditions related to COVID-19 warrant the proclamation of the existence of a local emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Christopher Cook, the Mayor of the City of Palouse, do hereby proclaim that a local emergency now exists due to the COVID-19 outbreak and that emergency operations are in effect, and this necessitates the utilization of emergency powers granted under RCW 38.52.020.

The City of Palouse is authorized to exercise the powers vested under this proclamation considering the exigencies of this emergency without regard to time-consuming procedures and formalities prescribed by law (excepting Constitutional requirements).

This emergency proclamation shall expire unless confirmed and adopted by the Palouse City Council at the next regularly scheduled City Council meeting.

DATED this 24TH day of March, 2020.



Christopher Cook, Mayor



Clerk