RESOLUTION 37, 2020
DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY
FOR COVID 19 VIRUS EVENT IN CLALLAM COUNTY

THE BOARD OF CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS finds as follows:

1. WHEREAS, on January 21, 2020, the Washington State Department of Health confirmed the first case of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in the United States in Snohomish County, Washington, and local health departments and the Washington State Department of Health have since that time worked to identify, contact, and test others in Washington State potentially exposed to COVID-19 in coordination with the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); and

2. WHEREAS, COVID-19, a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death, is caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which is a new strain of coronavirus that had not been previously identified in humans and can easily spread from person to person; and

3. WHEREAS, the CDC identifies the potential public health threat posed by COVID-19 both globally and in the United States as "high", and has advised that person-to-person spread of COVID-19 will continue to occur globally, including within the United States; and

4. WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar declared a public health emergency for COVID-19, beginning on January 27, 2020; and

5. WHEREAS, there is a critical shortage of Personal Protective Equipment necessary for safety of Clallam County first responders and health care workers, and

6. Whereas, shortage of PPE puts Clallam County first responders and health care workers at risk of not only COVID-19 but also HIV, hepatitis and other blood borne pathogens commonly encountered when conducting normal emergency and health care activities, and

7. Whereas, the safety of first responders and health care workers is paramount to providing quality health care and COVID 19 response, and

8. Whereas, the issuance of this Declaration of Emergency is authorized in accordance with RCW 38.52.050(3)(a) and (c) as well as RCW 38.52.070(2), and

9. Whereas, the Clallam County Public Health Officer concurs with the issuance of this declaration,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Clallam County Commissioners, in consideration of the above findings of fact:

1. A public health state of emergency is declared due the COVID-19 Virus situation in Clallam County and the shortage of PPE.

2. The Clallam County Emergency Management Director is hereby directed to activate those portions of the Clallam County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan necessary to combat the effects of the PPE shortage and virus response to the extent possible.

3. County departments are authorized to enter contracts and incur obligations in order to combat the emergency.
4. With Administrator approval, each department is authorized to exercise the powers vested in this resolution in light of the extreme emergency situation without regard to time-consuming procedures and formalities prescribed by law (excepting mandatory constitutional requirements).

5. The Board of County Commissioners and such other personnel as it may designate are authorized to seek state and federal assistance and potential reimbursement for local funds spent on COVID-19 response.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this seventeenth day of March 2020

ATTEST:

Loni Gores, CMC, Clerk of the Board

BOARD OF CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Mark Ozias, District 1
Randy Johnson, District 2
Bill Peach, District 3

CLALLAM COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER

Allison Unthank, MD, MPH
EXECUTIVE ORDER
PROCLAMATION OF EMERGENCY

I, RICH SILL, Administrator of Clallam County, State of Washington, do hereby declare as an Executive Order the following:

WHEREAS, the Clallam County Emergency Operations Center has been activated for a significant health emergency caused by novel coronavirus, or COVID-19, which is a new strain of coronavirus that has not been previously identified in humans and can easily spread from person to person; and

WHEREAS, the Clallam County Department of Emergency Management and the Clallam County Health Officer, Allison Berry-Unthank, MD are coordinating resources to support the alleviating impacts to people, property and infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, a State of Emergency exists in Clallam County, as a result of the aforementioned conditions, which significantly impacts the life and health of our residents, the economy of Clallam County, and is a disaster that affects life, health, property, or the public peace; and

WHEREAS, this constitutes an emergency as defined by the Clallam County Administrative Policy 240 – Health, Safety, and Security.

NOW, THEREFORE I, RICH SILL, Administrator of Clallam County, do hereby order and direct the following:

Heightened respiratory hygiene and hand washing/hand sanitizing precautions are in effect. All coughs and sneezes must be covered, hand sanitizer and hand washing is to be used throughout the day and before eating.

Employees who come to work with symptoms of fever and/or coughing and/or sneezing will be sent home. Their time will be charged to paid administrative leave for that day and their annual sick/vacation leave bank or leave specifically designated to COVID-19 for any subsequent days.

Employees who have sick family members will not be allowed on County premises. Their time will be charged to sick leave, vacation and compensatory time or leave specifically designated to COVID-19 before leave without pay will be granted.

An Emergency has been declared by the Clallam County Health Officer and the Clallam County Board of Commissioners.

Ordered and signed this seventeenth day of March 2020

[Signature]
Rich Sill