CODINGTON COUNTY RESOLUTION NO. 2020-8

AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION TO ADDRESS A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS BY IMPLEMENTING CERTAIN MEASURES WHICH HAVE BEEN DEEMED NECESSARY TO SLOW THE COMMUNITY SPREAD OF CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19).

WHEREAS, the Codington County Commission has the authority to pass Resolutions, per SDCL §7-8-20 (10), for the purpose of promoting the health, safety, morals and general welfare, of the community and the promotion of health and the suppression of disease; and

WHEREAS, an outbreak of the disease COVID-19, which is caused by the novel coronavirus, has been confirmed in more than 100 countries, including the United States; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a severe respiratory disease transmitted by person-to-person contact, or by contact with surfaces contaminated by the virus. In some cases, especially among older adults and persons with serious underlying health conditions, COVID-19 can result in serious illness requiring hospitalization, admission to an intensive care unit, and death; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization (WHO), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services have declared the outbreak of COVID-19 as a public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national emergency in response to the global pandemic of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on the same day, Governor Kristi Noem, issued Executive Order 2020-04 which declared a state of emergency to exist in the State of South Dakota in response to the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, a case of COVID-19 has been confirmed in Codington County, South Dakota; and

WHEREAS, the CDC and health experts have recommended social distancing to slow the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, social distancing is a method of slowing down or stopping the spread of a contagious disease by reducing the probability of contact between infected persons and those not infected in order to minimize disease transmission; and

WHEREAS, in response to the need to implement social distancing all schools in the state have been closed for at least two weeks; and

WHEREAS, on March 16th, 2020, the White House issued guidance recommending that social gatherings of more than ten people be avoided and that people avoid eating or drinking at bars, restaurants, and food courts; and

WHEREAS, the guidance issued by the White House further recommended that in states with evidence of community transmission, bars, restaurants, food courts, gyms, and other indoor and outdoor venues where people congregate should be closed; and

WHEREAS, many states and communities across the country have already implemented the White House recommendations by ordering all bars, restaurants, food courts, gyms, and other indoor and outdoor venues where people congregate be closed until the public health emergency is over; and
WHEREAS, the failure to successfully implement social distancing will likely result in higher numbers of infected individuals and has the potential to overwhelm the capacity of the County's health care providers; and

WHEREAS, it is important that control measures be taken to reduce or slow down the spread of COVID-19 in order to protect the health and safety of the County’s residents, especially for seniors and those with underlying health conditions that make them particularly vulnerable to COVID-19.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Codington County Commission that:

1. Effective immediately, Resolution No. 2020-7 is hereby repealed.

2. Effective immediately, all Codington County Facilities are closed to the general public. County and Unified Judicial System offices will continue to operate and conduct business by mail, email, online, by phone or by arranging to work face-to-face/in person on a case-by-case basis.

3. Effective immediately, in cases when a member(s) of the public displays symptoms of COVID-19, as specified by the South Dakota Department of Health, the County offices are directed to refuse face-to-face/in person service and encourage the individual(s) to seek medical attention as specified by public health authorities.

4. Effective immediately, all restaurants, food courts, coffee houses, bars, breweries, distilleries, wineries, clubs, cafes and other similar places of public accommodation offering food and beverages for on-site consumption, including any alcohol licensees with on-sale privileges, are strongly urged to close to on-site/on-sale patrons. These businesses are strongly urged to continue to operate in order to provide take-out, delivery, curbside service, drive-thru service. Any business continuing to operate in order to provide off-site service should implement procedures to ensure social distancing and operate in compliance with federal and state health guidance in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

5. Effective immediately, all recreational facilities, public pools, health clubs, athletic facilities and theaters, including movie theaters and music or entertainment venues are strongly urged to close and cease operations.

6. Effective immediately, all hookah lounges, cigar bars, vaping lounges or other similar business which allow for on-site consumption are strongly urged to cease allowing on-site consumption. Such businesses are strongly urged to only offer products for sale to consume off-site under the same conditions as bars and restaurants outlined in paragraph #4.

7. Effective immediately, all arcades, bingo halls, bowling alleys, skating rinks, and other similar recreational or entertainment facilities are strongly urged to close and cease operations.

8. The urged measures and closures in this order do not apply to the following businesses:

   a. Places of public accommodation that offer food and beverages for off-site consumption, including grocery stores, markets, retail stores that offer food, convenience stores, pharmacies, drug stores, and food pantries, other than any portion of such business which would be subject to the requirements of paragraph #1.
b. Room service in hotels.
c. Health care facilities, residential care facilities, congregate care facilities, and correctional facilities.
d. Crisis shelters, homeless shelters, soup kitchens, or other similar institutions.
e. Airport concessionaires.
f. Any emergency facilities necessary for the response to the current public health emergency or any other community emergency or disaster.

9. This Resolution shall remain in effect until such time as it is amended or repealed.

10. Businesses that choose to ignore this resolution are reminded of the County’s authority under SDCL §7-8-20 (8) and §7-8-20 (9).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety, and welfare of Caddington County and shall become effective immediately upon passage.

Dated this 31st day of March, 2020.

Brenda Hanten, Chair
Caddington County Commission

ATTEST:

Cindy Brugman, Auditor
Caddington County