

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF AVERY**

**DECLARATION OF A LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY**

**The following declaration is issued by the Board of Commissioners of Avery County:**

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death by the SARS-CoC-2 virus, which is a new strain of coronavirus previously unidentified in humans and which can spread from person to person; and

**WHEREAS**, in response to the global spread of the virus and the disease it causes, the World Health Organization has declared COVID-19 a Public Health Emergency of International Concern; the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) has warned of the high public health threat posed by COVID-19 globally and in the United States and has deemed it necessary to prohibit or restrict travel to areas designated by the CDC; the United States Department of Health and Human Services Secretary declared a public health emergency in the United States for COVID-19; and the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (“NCDHHS”) confirmed multiple cases of COVID-19 in North Carolina as of March 10, 2020.

**WHEREAS**, on March 10, 2020 the State of North Carolina, through the Office of the Governor, Roy Cooper, issued Executive Order No. 116 titled “Declaration of the State of Emergency to Coordinate Response and Protective Actions to Prevent the spread of COVID-19.

**WHEREAS**, in consultation with health care professionals and based upon guidance from CDS and NCDHHS, arrangements must be made immediately to take such actions as are deemed necessary and appropriate to insure that COVID-19 remains controlled and that residents and visitors in Avery County remain safe and secure.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, pursuant to the authority of the Avery County State of Emergency Ordinance contained in Book 1 Page 69 of the Avery County Book of Ordinances and Article 1A of the N.C.G.S. Chapter 166A, the Board of Commissioners hereby declare a Local State of Emergency for Avery County beginning upon adoption of this Declaration which shall remain in effect until rescinded.

By and with the written consent and request of the Mayors of the Municipalities within Avery County, this Declaration of Local State of Emergency applies within the municipal limits of Banner Elk, Beech Mountain, Crossnore, Elk Park, Newland, Seven Devils, Village of Grandfather and the Village of Sugar Mountain.

It is further declared that the Emergency Management Plan adopted by Avery County, and that all applicable mutual assistance compacts and agreements are in effect and shall remain in effect until this Declaration expires or is rescinded. All Emergency Management and Health

and Medical Services personnel are hereby ordered to cooperate in the implementations of the provisions of the County's Emergency Management Plan.

We direct that copies of this Declaration be disseminated to the mass communications media for publication and broadcast, and that a copy of this Declaration be posted at the County Courthouse and other public buildings as appropriate.

Adopted this the 20<sup>th</sup> day of March 2020.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR THE  
COUNTY OF AVERY**

By: Martha Hicks, Chair  
Martha Hicks, Chair of the Board of Commissioners



**ATTEST:**

Cindy Turbyfill  
Cindy Turbyfill, Clerk