

**KIOWA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
DECLARATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH EPIDEMIC EMERGENCY
RELATED TO COVID-19**

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Public Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar declared a public emergency for the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) beginning on January 27, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, Governor Jared Polis declared a State of Disaster Emergency as the number of identified COVID-19 cases in Colorado and in the United States increased and announced numerous emergency measures to protect public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, Elbert County issued a local disaster emergency declaration pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709 on March 16, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Kiowa Fire Protection District (the “District”) is monitoring the outbreak of COVID-19 and taking steps to help limit the spread of the disease and prepare for impacts to our community; and

WHEREAS, C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709 authorizes the Chief Executive of the District to assume the authority to issue a local disaster declaration for epidemic emergencies, as well as execute any action necessary for the protection of life and property in the event of an immediate danger or threat to the preservation of the public health and welfare; and

WHEREAS, the cost and magnitude of responding to and recovery from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic may exceed budgeted resources available to the District; and

WHEREAS, the District’s declaration of a local emergency will assist and permit access to local emergency funds (TABOR), Federal and State assistance, adjustments to policies, procedures, and ordinances to ensure the public’s health and welfare; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate and in the interests of the public health and safety of the District and its residents to rapidly address community spread of COVID-19 and subsequent cascading impacts, such as economic distress, and to further protect the health and safety of the public by declaring an epidemic emergency in the District; and

WHEREAS, the Chairman and President of the Board of Directors (“President”) of the District, as *principal executive officer of the District*, is further authorized to declare a local disaster pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709, so as to activate the District’s Emergency Operations Plan and Continuity of Operations Plan, as well as activate participation in multi-jurisdictional Emergency Operations Plans and Continuity of Operations Plans, to which the District may be party

BE IT NOW THEREFORE, THAT THE PRESIDENT, AS CHIEF PRINCIPAL OFFICER, DECLARES AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Intent. It is the intent of this declaration to provide the necessary organization, powers, and authority to enable the timely and effective use of all available District resources to prepare for, respond to, and recover from the declared local public health epidemic emergency and disaster consistent with C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709.

Section 2. Public Health Epidemic Emergency and Disaster Declared. The President hereby declares that a public health epidemic emergency and disaster relating to COVID-19 exists within the State of Colorado and within the District. Such circumstance is referred to in this declaration as the “public health epidemic emergency.” The public shall be notified of this declaration through general dissemination to the news media, posting on the District website, or other means of public notice intended to advise the general public.

Section 3. Duration of Declaration of Public Health Epidemic Emergency and Disaster. The declaration of the public health epidemic emergency as provided in Section 2 of this declaration shall remain in effect until the President declares that the epidemic emergency has passed and as subject to Limitation and Renewal, as set forth in Section 7, hereinbelow.

Section 4. Continuity of Government. During this state of public health epidemic emergency and disaster, the District shall continue to provide and maintain necessary public services to the maximum extent feasible.

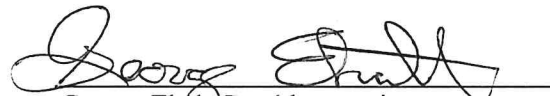
Section 5. Powers. Until the President of the Board declares that the public health epidemic emergency has passed, the President, with the assistance of the Fire Chief, has full power and authority to take any action necessary for the protection of life and property, including but not limited to the following actions: a) any action necessary for the protection of life and property, including, but not limited to, establishing regulations governing conduct related to the cause of the public health epidemic emergency; b) suspend or cancel any Board and commission meetings or other District events, or conduct virtual meetings by electronic means in accordance with Board-adopted policies; c) appropriate and expend funds, execute contracts, authorize the obtaining and acquisition of property, equipment, services, supplies and materials without strict compliance with procurement regulations or procedures; d) make application for local, State or federal assistance; e) close, limit or prohibit the use of any District-owned, leased or operated building, facility, or property; and f) undertake such other functions and activities as reasonably contemplated under the District’s Continuity of Operations Plan and Emergency Operations Plan.

Section 6. Access to TABOR Funds. During the current public health epidemic emergency the District’s Finance Manager shall have access to the District’s emergency funds mandated by the Taxpayer’s Bill of Rights (TABOR) as set forth in Article X, Section 20, Subsection (5) of the Colorado Constitution entitled “Emergency reserves.” Funds utilized pursuant to this declaration shall be replenished no later than the conclusion of the fiscal year following the end of the current public health epidemic emergency.

Section 7. Limitation and Renewal. This Declaration shall remain in effect for no more than seven (7) days from the date hereof, unless renewed by affirmative action of the District Board of Directors.

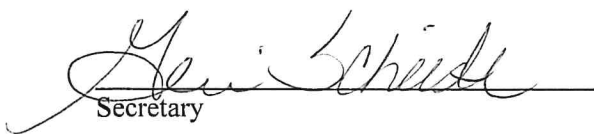
DATED this 4 day of April, 2020.

KIOWA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT



George Ehalt, President, acting as
Chief Executive of the District

ATTEST:



Secretary