

FRANKLIN COUNTY RESOLUTION _____

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

RESTATING EMERGENCY DECLARATION TO RENEW AND EXTEND SOME PROVISIONS OF RESOLUTION 2020-074 DUE TO THE CONTINUATION OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020, the Board of Franklin County Commissioners adopted resolution 2020-074 declaring an emergency in response to the developing situation surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, providing the County Administrator and elected officials the authority to effectuate emergency procedures and address necessary steps to maintain continuity of operations through April 5, 2020; and

WHEREAS, resolution 2020-074 allowed for emergency closure leave to be paid to non-essential employees where no telecommuting option was available; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020, Governor Inslee issued a new Executive Order directing all residents immediately to heed current State public health directives to stay home, except as absolutely needed.

WHEREAS, on March 31, 2020, the Board of Franklin County Commissioners adopted resolution 2020-089, extending the emergency provisions of resolution 2020-074 through April 21, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on April 2, 2020, Governor Inslee extended the statewide “stay at home” order until May 4, 2020; and

WHEREAS, effective April 1, 2020, the federal government has mandated additional paid leave banks for non-exempt employees through the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) signed into law by the President on March 18, 2020; and

WHEREAS, with the Governor’s “stay at home” order in place, non-exempt, non-essential employees are eligible for the additional FFCRA paid leave banks without impacting their own Paid Time Off (PTO) bank; and

WHEREAS, emergency closure leave is no longer necessary to ensure the financial health and safety of County employees; and

WHEREAS, in an abundance of caution, and in the best interest of public health and safety, the Board desires to extend authority to limit contact and adjust office hours as needed, as well as approved telecommuting options and/or use of available paid leave for non-essential employees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Franklin County Commissioners:

1. A state of emergency continues due to the COVID-19 virus situation in Franklin County.
2. The Franklin County Administrator and Franklin County elected officials are directed to continue to effectuate emergency procedures to address necessary steps to maintain continuity of operations of county government.
3. Elected officials and departments continue to be authorized to enter into contracts and incur obligations in order to address emergency responses.
4. Elected officials and department heads continue to be 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). In order to prepare for, present and respond to this emergency, the requirements of competitive bidding and public notice are waived for emergency related procurements pursuant to RCW 36.40.180, RCW 38.52.070(2), and purchasing/contracting requirements pursuant to RCW 36.32.270.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Franklin County Administrator and Human Resources Director continue to be authorized to adjust Human Resources and Personnel Policies related to leave usage and other issues related to employees necessitated by the impacts of COVID-19, consistent with approved collective bargaining agreements.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Board of County Commissioners continues authority for each separately and independently elected official, as well as the County Administrator for those departments under the direction of the Board of Franklin County Commissioners, to adjust their respective office hours as needed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, for April 22, 2020 through May 4, 2020 or until the end of the governor's "stay at home" order, whichever is later, the Board of Franklin County Commissioners grants authority to independent elected officials and the County Administrator to approve telecommuting options for employees deemed non-essential. For the purposes of this resolution, telecommuting shall mean that the employee is capable of, and actually performing, their regular job functions and/or other special assignments when working outside of the office.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the authority granting the use of paid administrative/emergency closure leave for non-essential employees in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, is rescinded effective at 12:00AM on April 22, 2020.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that non-essential employees without telecommuting options may access applicable leave banks, including leave granted by the FFCRA if they are eligible, as designated by Human Resources.

APPROVED this 21 day of April 2020.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Chair

Chair Pro Tem

Member

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board