

**COUNTY OF CALLAHAN, TEXAS
COMMISSIONERS COURT DECLARATION OF LOCAL STATE OF DISASTER
DUE TO PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, a novel coronavirus, now designated SARS-CoV2 which causes the disease COVID-19, has been declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organization; and

WHEREAS, the symptoms of COVID-19 can range from mild to severe illness and cause further complications including death; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 virus mainly spreads between people who are in close contact with one another through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Governor of the State of Texas issued a proclamation certifying that COVID-19 poses an imminent threat of disaster in the state and declaring a state of disaster for all counties in Texas; and

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, the Callahan County Judge issued a proclamation certifying that COVID-19 poses an imminent threat of disaster to the county and declaring a state of disaster for Callahan County; and

WHEREAS, extraordinary measures must be taken to prevent the spread of this potentially devastating disease throughout Callahan County; and

WHEREAS, said state of disaster requires that certain emergency protective measures be taken pursuant to the Texas Disaster Act of 1975 relating to Emergency Management and Public Health, pursuant to Chapter 418 of the Texas Government Code.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF CALLAHAN COUNTY, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. That a local state of disaster for public health emergency is hereby declared for Callahan County, Texas, pursuant to Section 418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code.

SECTION 2. That pursuant to Section 418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code the state of disaster for public health emergency shall continue for a period of not more than thirty (30) days from the date of this declaration, unless extended by the Commissioners Court of Callahan County, Texas.

SECTION 3. That pursuant to Section 418.108(c) of the Texas Government Code this declaration of a local state of disaster for public health emergency shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk.

SECTION 4. That pursuant to Section 418.108(d) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster activates the Callahan County, Texas, Emergency Management Plan, and authorizes the furnishing of aid and assistance under the declaration.

SECTION 5. That this declaration authorizes the County to take any actions necessary to promote health and suppress the virus.

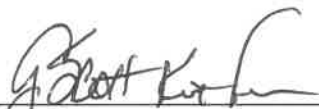
SECTION 6. That this declaration hereby prohibits gatherings of more than 10 people. A “gathering” refers generally to a scheduled event or common endeavor where persons are present in a confined space, room, or area. Access to the offices of Callahan County including Justice of the Peace offices in Cross Plains and Clyde and the county library will be by appointment only.

SECTION 7. In accordance with Texas Government Code §418.173, a person who knowingly or intentionally violates this declaration commits an offense, punishable by a fine up to \$1,000.00 or confinement in jail for a term that does not exceed 180 days.

SECTION 8. That this declaration hereby authorizes the use of all lawfully available enforcement tools.

SECTION 9. That this declaration shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance and, upon approval by the Commissioners Court, shall continue in effect for no more than thirty (30) days or until terminated by the County Judge. Pursuant to this declaration, additional directives may be issued by the County Judge at any time as deemed necessary.

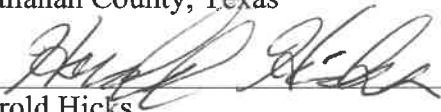
DECLARED this 23rd day of March, 2020.




G. Scott Kniffen, County Judge
Callahan County, Texas




Attest: Nicole Crocker
Callahan County Clerk



Harold Hicks
Commissioner Pct. 1



Brian Farmer
Commissioner Pct. 2



Tom Windham
Commissioner Pct.



Erwin Clark



Commissioner Pct. 4