RESOLUTION 20-07
DECLARATION OF DISASTER EMERGENCY
FOR THE COUNTY OF PIKE, PENNSYLVANIA

WHEREAS, a novel coronavirus has spread throughout the world, including the United States; and

WHEREAS, said virus is known to have the potential to cause Coronavirus Disease-2019 (COVID-19) in humans; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has declared COVID-19 a "public health emergency of international concern" and that the US Department of Health and Humans Services (HHS) Secretary has declared that COVID-19 creates a public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the Governor’s Office of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania issued a Proclamation of Disaster Emergency on March 6, 2020 due to COVID-19 under the authority of 35 PA C.S. Section 7101, et seq. that authorized the suspension of certain procedures and formalities prescribed by law and urged counties to “act as necessary to meet the current exigencies”; and

WHEREAS, emergency management measures are required to reduce the severity of this disaster and to protect the health, safety and welfare of affected residents in Pike County; and

WHEREAS, Section 7501 of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Services Code (35 PA C.S. Section 7501) authorizes Pike County to declare a disaster emergency upon the finding a disaster has occurred or is imminent.

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Pike County Board of Commissioners (“Commissioners”), pursuant to the provision of Section 7501 of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Services Code 35 PA C.S. Section 701, do hereby declare a disaster emergency in Pike County due to COVID-19;

FURTHER, we direct the Pike County Emergency Management Coordinator to coordinate the activities of the emergency response, to take all appropriate action needed to alleviate the effects of this Corona Virus and to take any other emergency responses action deemed necessary to respond to this emergency; and

FURTHER, the Commissioners, pursuant to 35 PA C.S. Section 7501(d), authorize the temporary suspension of all formal requirements in light of the exigencies of this disaster emergency, including all time-consuming procedures and formalities prescribed by law (excepting mandatory constitutional requirements) pertaining to the performance of public work, entering into contracts, the incoming of obligations, the employment of temporary workers, the rental of equipment, the purchase of supplied and materials, the levying of taxes and the appropriation and expenditure of public funds.
The Pike County Commissioners are urging all residents, businesses and organizations to follow the guidelines of the Governor’s Office, the Pennsylvania Department of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Federal Government.

**THIS DECLARATION SHALL TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY.**

**GIVEN** under our hands and seal of the County of Pike this 18th day of March, 2020.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF PIKE COUNTY**

Matthew M. Osterberg, Chairman

Ronald R. Schmalzle, Vice-Chairman

Attest:

Gary R. Orben, Chief Clerk
Date: March 18, 2020

Steven R. Guccini, Commissioner