# **Menard County**

Menard, Texas 76859

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# **Boyd "Hoppy" Murchison**

Commissioner, Precinct 1

# **Jay Cunningham**

Commissioner, Precinct 2

# **Edward Keith**

Commissioner, Precinct 3

# **Larry Burch**

Commissioner, Precinct 4

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COUNTY OF MENARD STATE OF TEXAS 206 E. San Saba Menard, Texas 76859

# DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER FOR PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, beginning in December, 2019, a novel coronavirus now designated SARS-CoV2 which causes the disease COVID-19, has spread through the world and has now been declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organization; and

WHEREAS, symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, coughing, and shortness of breath, causing death in some cases; and

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

WHEREAS, on March 13th, 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, extraordinary measures must be taken to contain COVID-19 and prevent its spread throughout Menard County, that includes the banning of community gatherings of over 10 people and, additionally, potentially requiring individuals, groups of individuals, or property to undergo additional measures that prevent or control the spread of disease; and

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

WHEREAS, on the 19th of March, 2020, the Menard County Judge issued an Executive Order declaring a Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency for Menard County, Texas.

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

- 1. That the local state of disaster for public health emergency is hereby renewed for Menard County, Texas, pursuant to Section 418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code for a period of thirty days.
- 2. 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.
- 3. That, pursuant to Section 418.108(d) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster activates the Menard County emergency management plan, and authorizes the furnishing of aid and assistance under the declaration.
- 4. That this declaration authorizes the County to take any actions necessary to promote health and suppress the virus, including the quarantine of persons and occupied structures, examining and regulating hospitals, regulating ingress and egress from the County, regulating ingress and egress to occupied structures, establishment of quarantine stations, emergency hospitals, and other hospitals, and insuring compliance for those who do not comply with the County's rules and directives.
- 5. That gatherings where 10 people or more are expected to attend are hereby suspended or cancelled until further notice. A "gathering" refers generally to a scheduled event or common endeavor where 10 persons are present in a confined space, room, or area.
- 6. That this order takes effective immediately from and after its issuance and shall continue in effect until expired, renewed by the Menard County Commissioners Court, or terminated as deemed necessary.
- 7. This order is designed to follow an order issued by Governor Greg Abbott on March 19th, 2020, and be in accordance with the Guidelines from President Trump and the Center for Disease Control (CDC). On this 25th of March, 2020, the Menard County Commissioners Court hereby extends this order for a period of 30 (thirty) days, through April 24th, 2020.

In accordance with Texas Government Code Section 418.173, a person who knowingly or intentionally violated this order commits an offense, punishable by a fine up to \$1,000 or confinement in jail for a term that does not exceed 180 days.

THE PURPOSE OF THIS ORDER IS FOR EMERGENCY PROTECTIVE MEASURE, MITIGATION PROCEDURES AND RESPONSE PLANS TO THIS PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY.

IN TESTIMONY, WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my name and have officially caused the county seal to be affixed at my office in the City of Menard, Texas, this 25th day of March, 2020.

Hon. Tom Roberson Menard County Judge

Filed for Record in my Off

Clerk, Menard County Tevas