

RESOLUTION 2020 272

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF BENTON COUNTY,
WASHINGTON:

IN THE MATTER OF AMENDING RESOLUTION 2020-258, DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY IN BENTON COUNTY AND EXTENDING THE DATES GRANTING AUTHORITY TO ADJUST OFFICE HOURS EFFECTIVE MARCH 18, 2020 AND APPROVE TELE-COMMUTING OPTIONS AND/OR PAID ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE OR OTHER AVAILABLE LEAVE FOR THE PERIOD MARCH 23, 2020 THROUGH APRIL 12, 2020 OR UNTIL THE END OF THE GOVERNOR'S "STAY AT HOME ORDER", WHICHEVER IS LATER

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020 the Benton County Board of County Commissioners declared an emergency in response to the developing situation surrounding the COVID-19 which provided authority to reduce direct public contact along with hours and staff levels in all County offices; and

WHEREAS, the authority to reduce operations was set to end on April 5, 2020 unless otherwise extended; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020 the Governor of the State of Washington issued a "stay at home" order for all of Washington State which will last for two weeks; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's "stay at home" order will extend beyond the initial dates the Board set in their declaration; and

WHEREAS, in an abundance of caution and in the best interest of public health and the safety of County employees the Board desires to extend authority to limit contact and adjust office hours as needed as well as approved tele-commuting options and/or paid administrative leave for employees that are deemed non-essential;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Benton County Commissioners that the last two paragraphs of Resolution 2020-258 are hereby amended as follows:


Effective March 18, 2020 through April 12, 2020 or until the end of the governor's "stay at home" order, whichever is later, the Board of Benton County Commissioners grants authority for each separately and independently elected official, as well as County Administration for those departments under the direction of the Board of Benton County Commissioners, to limit person to person contact with the general public and adjust their respective office hours as needed; and

For the work period March 23, 2020 through April 12, 2020 or until the end of the governor's "stay at home" order, whichever is later, the Board of Benton County Commissioners grants authority to independent elected officials and the County Administrator to approve tele-commuting options and/or paid administrative leave or other available leave for those employees that are deemed non-essential during that time period provided that they regularly check their office email


and provide a telephone number where they can be reached for work related issues and are available to physically report to work as deemed necessary;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all other portions of Resolution 2020-258 remain in full force and effect.


Dated this 31st day of March 2020.



Chairman of the Board



Chairman Pro Tem



Member

Attest: 
Clerk of the Board

Constituting the Board of County
Commissioners of Benton County,
Washington