



**PROCLAMATION FOR DECLARATION OF STATE OF EMERGENCY**

**WHEREAS**, in December 2019, medical professionals detected a novel coronavirus, now designated as “SARS-CoV-2” which causes a disease known as “Coronavirus 2019”, abbreviated and popularly known as “COVID-19”; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 20, 2020, the World Health Organization Director General declared an outbreak of COVID-19 as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern, advising countries to prepare for containment, detection, isolation and case management, contact tracing, and prevention of onward spread of the disease; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020, the World Health Organization Director General characterized COVID-19 as a Pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, The President of the United States declared the COVID-19 outbreak as a National Emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020, the Governor of the State of Missouri declared a State of Emergency dealing with the outbreak of the COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 is spread from person to person through direct or close proximate contact and presents an imminent threat of widespread illness and threat to public health; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020 the Center for Disease Control has confirmed at least 15,219 cases of COVID-19, including over 201 deaths in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, as of March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020, 47 people have tested positive for COVID-19 in the State of Missouri and 2 deaths have been confirmed due to COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, after consultation with our local health department officials as well as our emergency management agency, it is our judgement that there reasonably appears to exist a State of Emergency which requires a response by Newton County to protect human life.

**This Order and State of Emergency will be effective immediately and shall continue for a period of 30 days unless renewed or withdrawn.**

Submitted by the Newton County Commission