## EXECUTIVE ORDER OF COUNTY JUDGE ROBERT L. HURLEY ISSUED FOR ATASCOSA COUNTY OFFICES AND DEPARTMENTS ON MARCH 23, 2020

Whereas, pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 418.108, Atascosa County Judge Robert L. Hurley declared a state of local disaster on March 23, 2020 due to imminent threat arising from COVID-19;

*Whereas,* pursuant to the Texas Disaster Act of 1975, the County Judge may declare a local state of disaster in and for the County, and may exercise the powers granted therein on an appropriate local scale;

Whereas, in accordance with Texas Government Code Section 418.108(b), of even date herewith, the Atascosa County Commissioners Court approved an Order Continuing Declaration of State of Local Disaster for Atascosa County (hereafter, the "Order of Continuation of Declaration");

Whereas, in accordance with Texas Government Code Section 418.108(b) this consent by Commissioners Court authorizes the Atascosa County judge to continue to exercise the powers granted by the Texas Disaster Act of 1975 for the period specified in the Order of Continuing Declaration;

Whereas, a continuation of a declaration of local disaster and public health emergency includes the ability to reduce the possibility of exposure to disease, control the risk, promote health, compel persons to undergo additional health measures that prevent or control the spread of disease, including isolation, surveillance, quarantine, or placement of persons under public health observation, including the provision of temporary housing or emergency shelters for persons misplaced or evacuated and request assistance from the governor of state resources; and

Whereas, the Order of Continuation of Declaration further reserved all other authority and powers conferred by or under the laws of the State of Texas and authorized the Atascosa County Judge to respond as necessary to the situation made the subject of this Order of Continuation of Declaration by issuance of executive order as necessary.

## PURSUANT TO THE TEXAS DISASTER ACT OF 1975, ATASCOSA COUNTY JUDGE ROBERT L. HURLEY HEREBY ISSUES THIS EXECUTIVE ORDER TO ALL COUNTY OFFICES AND DEPARTMENTS AS FOLLOWS:

- 1. Effective as of noon on March 23, 2020, and continuing until 11:59 a.m. Tuesday, May 21, 2020:
  - A. All Atascosa County-related non-essential business travel is hereby ordered to be canceled;
  - B. Atascosa County staff shall limit face-to-face vendor meetings, encourage conference calls and webinars and discourage in-person meetings as much as possible in an effort to follow the recommendations for Social Distancing;
  - C. Excepting public meetings of the Atascosa County Commissioners Court, all other in-person County employee meetings shall be cancelled or postponed for the next 60 days;
  - D. The Office of the County Judge shall hereafter issue Employer Guidance on COVID-19 related policies to all Atascosa County offices and departments;
  - E. That the Office of the County Judge shall work to consider, develop and implement the necessary technology to hold hearings and conduct court business electronically.

The sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and phrases of this Executive Order are severable and if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this Executive Order should be declared invalid by the final judgement or decree of any court or competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs and sections that can be given effect without the invalid provision, and to this end, the provisions of this Executive Order are severable.

Declared on this 23rd day of March, 2020

ROBERT L. HURLEY

ATASCOSA COUNTY JUDGE

MARK GILLESPIE

Commissioner Pct. 1

STUART KNOWLTON

Commissioner Pct. 2

ELICEO DEDEZ

Commissioner Pct.

KENNARD RILE

Commissioner Pct. 4