

Resolution 20-08

A RESOLUTION DECLARING A STATE OF EMERGENCY FOR THE CITY OF CHOCTAW UNTIL APRIL 12, 2020

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization (WHO) has declared COVID-19 (Coronavirus) to be a global pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the President of the United States and the governor of the State of Oklahoma have declared an infectious disease national emergency declaration to combat COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, health professionals and researchers have determined that COVID-19 is spread by human contact and interaction; and

WHEREAS, avoidance of human contact through methods such as social distancing is believed to stop the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the spread of COVID-19 is a disaster affecting life, health, and safety of Choctaw residents and non-residents alike; and

WHEREAS, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has in accordance with its guidance for large and mass gatherings recommends for the next eight (8) weeks, organizers (whether groups or individuals) cancel or postpone in-person events that consist of ten (10) people or more throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, adoption of additional measures consistent with these CDC guidelines is necessary to protect the citizens of the City of Choctaw from COVID-19.

WHEREAS, 11 O.S. § 22-120 (A) Public health, hospitals, quarantine, and environmental hazards.

A. The municipal governing body may enact and enforce such ordinances, rules and regulations as it deems necessary for the protection of the public health, not inconsistent with state law; and may establish and regulate hospitals, and provide for their operation and support. The governing body may make regulations to prevent the introduction of contagious diseases into the municipality and may enforce quarantine laws within five (5) miles of the municipal limits.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHOCTAW:

SECTION 1: A state of emergency exists within the corporate limits of the City of Choctaw, Oklahoma County, Oklahoma pursuant to Title 63 O.S. § 683.1 et al, the Oklahoma Emergency Act of 2003.

SECTION 2: This resolution shall become effective at 12:01am on March 19, 2020 upon signature by the Mayor.


- a) *City of Choctaw's Administrative, Public Works and Public Safety facilities are hereby closed to the general public, however, administrative and emergency services will remain on staff to answer phone calls and conduct essential services during regular business hours from 8:00am to 5:00pm. Utilities, Court, Licenses*

and Permit payments can be paid by mail, phone, on-line or placed in the drop box outside city hall. Traffic and Juvenile Courts, Utility cut-off for non-payment are hereby suspended. All private gatherings, meetings and events with ten (10) or more people are hereby postponed and/or cancelled and no special event permits for gatherings, meetings and events at said locations shall be issued until the expiration of this emergency declaration.

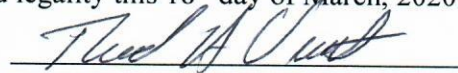
- b) All gyms, fitness facilities, entertainment venues, movie theaters, bowling alleys, skating rinks, private clubs, bars and lounges located within the corporate limits of the City of Choctaw shall be prohibited from operating or opening to the patrons until the expiration of this emergency declaration.
- c) Restaurant dining rooms and other dine-in services areas such as "food courts" and "buffets" shall be closed to the public until the expiration of this emergency declaration, although "pick up" and "delivery" service may remain open to the public and is encouraged until the expiration of this emergency declaration.
- d) Park patrons are highly encouraged to use discretion in all parts of the park facility playgrounds and open spaces, when crowded conditions exist.
- e) Meetings of all City of Choctaw boards, commissions and committees will be evaluated on a case by case basis for cancellation/reschedule. These meetings will remain open to the public, but steps will be taken to ensure no close contact between attendees and the cleaning of all surfaces before and after meetings.
- f) Emergency Purchases: The City Manager and/or designee shall be authorized to make emergency purchases of goods and services and enter into contracts as deemed necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public and to protect public or private property from further harm or damage. Emergency purchases of goods and services shall not be subject to competitive bidding or other purchasing requirements established by the City's municipal code. Contracts pursuant to this section may be entered into by the City Manager and/or designee(s) without the prior approval of the City Council.
- g) The City Manager and Department Heads are hereby authorized to make necessary operational changes to protect employees and the public from exposure to the COVID-19 virus.
- h) This state of emergency shall begin March 19, 2020 at 12:01am and continue until April 12, 2020 or terminated earlier by further resolution.
- i) This Resolution is subject to amendment if conditions so warrant.



Tracy Jordan, Deputy City Clerk


Randy Ross, Mayor

Approved as to form and legality this 18th day of March, 2020.


Ray Vincent, City Attorney