

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MONTROSE COUNTY,
COLORADO
LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY DECLARATION**

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a highly contagious virus that originated in China and has spread to numerous countries around the world, including the United States; and

WHEREAS, the virus may cause serious illness or death in certain cases, particularly in cases involving the elderly and immunocompromised persons; and

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the worldwide outbreak of COVID-19 a "public health emergency of international concern;" and on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services declared the virus a public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the Governor of the State of Colorado declared a state of emergency in response to the presence of COVID-19 in Colorado; and

WHEREAS on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national emergency related to COVID-19 to allow additional federal resources to be made available to state and local governments; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the Montrose County Board of Public Health declared a local epidemic, and urged local leaders to follow medical advice and immediately take recommended action to prevent further outbreak; and

WHEREAS, Montrose County has previously adopted an emergency declaration for the County, extending it consistent with the state of Colorado, and now further extends its emergency declaration through August 31, 2020 based on medical opinions and guidance that COVID-19 cases may continue to emerge, peak periodically, and require prolonged caution and emergency responses;

WHEREAS, pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709(1), "A local disaster may be declared only by the principal executive officer of a political subdivision. It shall not be continued or renewed in excess seven days except by or with the consent of the governing board of the political subdivision;" and

WHEREAS, "The effect of a declaration of local disaster emergency is to activate the response and recovery aspects of any and all applicable local and inter-jurisdictional disaster and emergency plans and to authorize the furnishing of aid and assistance under such plans." C.R.S. §24-33.5-709(2); and

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE DECLARED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MONTROSE COUNTY:

THAT, the previous declaration of local disaster emergency is hereby continued through August 31, 2020, or as may otherwise be determined to be appropriate to vacate or extend. Such extension shall be considered retroactive to April 30, 2020.

THAT, Montrose County will follow the lead and direction of the State of Colorado in determining when this declared emergency has subsided and warrants termination.

THAT, this Declaration is necessary for the public health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the County of Montrose, State of Colorado.

Adopted this _____ day of May, 2020.

MONTROSE COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

ATTEST:

Keith Caddy, Chair

By: _____

Roger Rash, Vice-Chair

Sue Hansen, Commissioner