



BISHOP TRIBAL COUNCIL

RESOLUTION T2020-24

SUBJECT: Resolution to proclaim an emergency declaration of a public threat due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic on the Bishop Paiute Reservation

WHEREAS, the Bishop Paiute Tribe is a federally recognized Indian Tribe located on the Bishop Paiute Reservation in Inyo County, California, and has inherent sovereignty; and

WHEREAS, the Bishop Paiute Tribal Council is the duly elected governing body of the Bishop Paiute Tribe, empowered to act in all matters that concern the health, safety, and general welfare of the Bishop Paiute Tribe, including the power to enact ordinances and manage resources of the Bishop Paiute Tribe; and

WHEREAS, in December 2019, an outbreak of respiratory illness due to a novel coronavirus, known as "COVID-19," was first identified in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China, and has spread outside of China, impacting more than 80 countries, including the United States and the State of California; and

WHEREAS, the Bishop Paiute Tribe is actively working with the United States and the State of California, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, local governments, health facilities and health care providers on or near the Bishop Paiute Reservation to prepare and protect Bishop Paiute members and their families and Bishop Paiute Reservation residents, employees and the public from COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, as of March 17, 2020, there are a total of 472 positive cases of COVID-19 and eleven (11) deaths in California: 24 cases are from repatriation flights, 82 that are travel related, 75 due to person-to-person transmission, 98 are community acquired and 193 are from unknown sources; and

WHEREAS, experts anticipate that while a high percentage of individuals affected by COVID-19 will experience mild flu-like symptoms, some will have more serious symptoms and require hospitalization, particularly individuals who are elderly, those with compromised immune systems, or those who already have underlying chronic health conditions such as diabetes, heart disease, obesity and lung disease; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative for the Tribe to prepare for and respond to suspected or confirmed COVID-19 cases within the Bishop Paiute Reservation and surrounding areas, to implement measures to protect the public health and slow the spread of COVID-19, and to prepare to respond to an increasing number of individuals requiring medical care and hospitalization; and

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WHEREAS, if COVID-19 spreads onto the Bishop Paiute Reservation at a rate comparable to the rate of spread in other local jurisdictions within the State of California, the number of persons requiring medical care may exceed locally available resources, and controlling outbreaks minimizes the risks to the public, maintains the health and safety of the people of the Bishop Paiute Tribe, and limits the spread of infection in our communities and within the healthcare delivery system; and


NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Bishop Paiute Tribal Council, in its capacity as the official governing body of the Tribe and pursuant to its inherent sovereignty, finds it necessary to declare a State of Emergency to exist on the Bishop Paiute Reservation in order to minimize the threat of potential outbreak and spread of COVID-19 onto the Bishop Paiute Reservation, to make Bishop Paiute Tribal Council's resources available, to help formalize emergency actions already underway within the Tribal Government and assist the Bishop Paiute Tribe to prepare for the potential outbreak and spread of COVID-19.

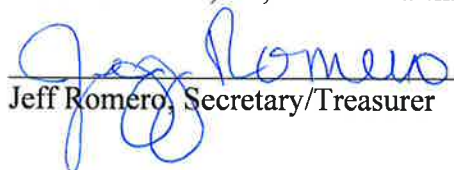
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tribal Council does hereby authorize and approve the Chairman, or in his absence, the Vice-Chair, to authorize, activate, and enact emergency measures set forth in the Bishop Paiute Tribe's Emergency Action Response Plan to the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19), and to delegate authority to the Tribal Administrator, Public Works Director and Chief of the Police to utilize Bishop Paiute Tribal Council's resources, including personnel and equipment to mitigate the effects of this COVID-19 emergency for the protection of the Bishop Paiute Tribe's membership, and the public on the Bishop Paiute Reservation.

CERTIFICATION

We the undersigned, as the Chairperson and Secretary of the Bishop Paiute Tribal Council, hereby certify that at a duly called Tribal Council meeting, which convened on the 17th day of March 2020, approved the foregoing resolution at which a quorum of 5 members were present and voting 4 for, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining, motion carried.

Attest:


Allen Summers, Sr., Tribal Chairman


Jeff Romero, Secretary/Treasurer

3/17/2020
Date

3/17/2020
Date

Allen Summers, Sr.	Tilford P. Denver	Jeff Romero	Earleen Hess-Williams	Brian Poncho
Chairman	Vice-Chairman	Secretary/Treasurer	Council Member	Council Member