## LAVACA COUNTY DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER RELATED TO CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19)

**WHEREAS**, the United States Federal Government has declared a national emergency and the State of Texas has declared a statewide public health disaster as a result of the COVID-19 Coronavirus; and

**WHEREAS**, the potential spread of the COVID-19 Coronavirus poses a threat to the health and safety of the citizens of Lavaca County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Texas government Code Chapter 418 gives the county judge the power to declare a local disaster within the county "if the threat of disaster is imminent" and

**WHEREAS**, the magnitude of the potential damage and the rapidity with which potential spread of the COVID-19 Coronavirus could constitute an imminent threat of disaster,

**WHEREAS**, the declaration of such disaster authorizes the imposition of controls on activities which tend to increase the likelihood of injury to the public; and

WHEREAS, such controls, once implemented, have the potential of protecting lives and property by mitigating the threat of a potential spread of the COVID-19 Coronavirus; and

**WHEREAS**, a local disaster declaration expires seven days after its issuance, unless the commissioners court consents to its renewal or continuance;

**BE IT THEREFORE PROCLAIMED** that I, Keith Mudd, County Judge of Lavaca County, declare a local state of disaster based on the threat of spreading of the COVID-19 Coronavirus in Lavaca County, Texas.

**BE IT ALSO PROCLAIMED** that this state of disaster will continue until rescinded in accordance with the above cited statute, but in no instance will this declaration continue for more than seven days without being authorized by the Lavaca County Commissioners Court.

**BE IT ALSO PROCLAIMED** that a violation of this Disaster Declaration may be punishable by a fine or confinement in jail.

This declaration shall be promptly publicized and filed with the County Clerk.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I affix my signature this 13<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.

Keith Mudd

Lavaca County Judge

Honorable Elizabeth A. Kouba

County Clerk

At 6:20 O'Clock P

MAR 13 2020

COUNTY COURT LAVACA CO., TEXAS

By Court Deput