

ORDER #439



STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF COMAL §

**CONTINUATION OF DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER FOR COMAL
COUNTY, TEXAS**

WHEREAS, beginning in December, 2019, a novel coronavirus, now designated COVID-19, has spread to the extent it has now been declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organization; and

WHEREAS, symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough and shortness of breath, and outcomes have ranged from mild to severe illness and in some cases death; and

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization Director General declared the outbreak of COVID-19 as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern and advised countries to prepare for the containment, including active surveillance, early detection, isolation and case management, contact tracing, and prevention of onward spread of the disease; and

WHEREAS, on March 5, 2020, the World Health Organization Director General urged aggressive preparedness and activation of emergency plans to aggressively change the trajectory of this epidemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, President Trump declared a National State of Emergency under the Stafford Act to combat the growing COVID-19 pandemic in the United States; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Governor Greg Abbott declared a State of Disaster for all 254 Counties in the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is closely monitoring the growing number of COVID-19 cases that have spread into the United States; and

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2020, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued guidance and a statement that large events and gatherings such as conferences, festivals, parades, concerts, sporting events, weddings, and other types of assemblies can contribute to the spread of COVID-19 in the United States via travelers who attend such events and introduce the virus to new communities; and

WHEREAS, a declaration of local disaster includes the ability to take measures to reduce the possibility of exposure to disease and mitigate the risk to, and promote the health and safety of, the residents of Comal County; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Texas Disaster Act of 1975, the County Judge is designated as the Emergency Management Director of Comal County, and may exercise the powers granted to the governor on an appropriate local scale; and

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020, the County Judge issued a Declaration of Local Disaster for Comal County, Texas, due to this health emergency; and

WHEREAS, the conditions necessitating declaration of local disaster continue to exist; and

WHEREAS, Section 418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code provides that a declaration of local disaster may not be continued or renewed for a period of more than seven days without the consent of the governing body of the political subdivision.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED BY THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF COMAL COUNTY, TEXAS:

Section 1. **Continuation of Local State of Disaster.** The local state of disaster proclaimed for this health emergency by the County Judge shall continue until terminated by order of the Commissioners Court.

Section 2. **Publicity and Filing.** Pursuant to Section 418.108(c) of the Texas Disaster Act, this continuation of the declaration of a local state of disaster due to this health emergency shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk.

Section 3. **Effective Date.** This Declaration shall take effect immediately upon its approval by the Commissioners Court of Comal County, Texas.

ORDERED this the 24th day of March, 2020, in the County of Comal, Texas.

Sherman Krause,
County Judge, Comal County, Texas

Donna Eccleston,
Commissioner, Precinct 1

Scott Haag
Commissioner, Precinct 2

Kevin Webb,
Commissioner, Precinct 3

Jen Crownover,
Commissioner, Precinct 4

ATTEST:

Bobbie Koepp, Comal County Clerk