

**RESOLUTION NO 20-03-25-002**

**A RESOLUTION REGARDING MATTERS RELATED  
TO THE COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY**

**WHEREAS**, on March 6, 2020, Eric J. Holcomb, the Governor of the State of Indiana, issued Executive Order 20-02, which declared the existence of a public health emergency throughout the State of Indiana due to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19); and

**WHEREAS**, on March 23, 2020, Eric J. Holcomb, the Governor of the State of Indiana, issued Executive Order 20-08, which generally directed Hoosiers to stay at home; and

**WHEREAS**, the Kosciusko County Commissioners have continued to monitor the constantly evolving circumstances surrounding COVID-19 in an effort to provide for the health and safety of the citizens of Kosciusko County; and

**WHEREAS**, given the threat to health and safety that is posed by COVID-19, the Commissioners believe that it is important to be proactive in dealing with this issue; and

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of this Resolution is to provide guidance regarding public access to the Old Courthouse and to the Justice Building, personnel matters, public meetings, and continuity of governmental operations.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

**Section 1. Duration.** This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage and shall remain in effect until 11:59 PM on April 6, 2020, unless rescinded, modified, or extended.

**Section 2. Operation of the Courts.** The Judges shall retain discretion in the administration of the Courts.

**Section 3. Administration of the Jail.** The Sheriff shall retain discretion in the administration of the County Jail.

**Section 4. Closure of the Justice Building to the Public.** During the duration of this Resolution, the Justice Building shall be closed to the public with the exception that individuals having scheduled court dates (including parties and attorneys and any other individuals deemed necessary by a judge, but excluding family members and friends of parties unless approved by a judge) shall be allowed entry for purposes of attending court dates and also with the exception that department heads may allow individual members of the public to enter the Justice Building by appointment but only to conduct business determined to be essential by the department head. Judges and department heads may enter the Justice Building and may allow essential personnel to enter the Justice Building for purposes of performing necessary work; however, to the

extent possible, personnel should be encouraged to work from home. Unless necessary for a specific and essential purpose, non-essential personnel should not enter the Justice Building.

**Section 5. Closure of the Old Courthouse to the Public.** During the duration of this Resolution, the Old Courthouse shall be closed to the public with the exception that department heads may allow individual members of the public to enter the Courthouse by appointment but only to conduct business determined to be essential by the department head. Department heads may enter the Old Courthouse and may allow essential personnel to enter the Old Courthouse for purposes of performing necessary work; however, to the extent possible, personnel should be encouraged to work from home. Unless necessary for a specific and essential purpose, non-essential personnel should not enter the Old Courthouse.

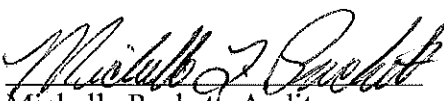
**Section 6. Public Meetings.** Pursuant to Executive Order 20-09 (Relating to the Continuity of Operations of Government), governing bodies may meet by videoconference or by telephone conferencing so long as a quorum of members participate and so long as the meeting is made available to members of the public and media. Governing bodies may limit the number of attendees at public meetings if such limitation is needed to comply with recommended social distancing requirements. In the event that attendees are limited, priority should be given to members of the media.

**Section 7. Continuity of Governmental Operations.** Consistent with law and with providing for the public's well-being, department heads are encouraged to take such steps as they shall deem appropriate to ensure continuity of governmental operations to the extent possible. Furthermore, department heads are encouraged to utilize such technological means (such as videoconferencing and teleconferencing) as may be available to accomplish this goal while also giving due consideration to the public's interest in being able to observe and participate in the business of local government.

Passed and adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Kosciusko this 25th day of March, 2020.

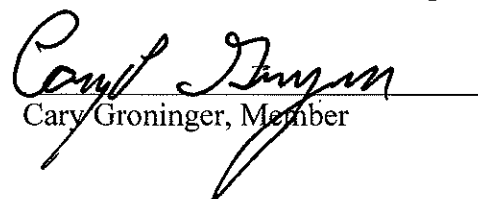
ATTEST:

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS,  
KOSCIUSKO COUNTY

  
Michelle Puckett, Auditor

  
Bradford Jackson, President

  
Robert Conley, Member

  
Cary Groninger, Member

I affirm, under the penalties for perjury,  
that I have taken reasonable care to redact  
each Social Security number in this  
document, unless required by law.

  
Leandra Pence