



BIG PINE PAIUTE TRIBE OF THE OWENS VALLEY
Big Pine Paiute Indian Reservation

RESOLUTION 20-04

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION TO PROCLAIM AN EMERGENCY DECLARATION OF A PUBLIC HEALTH THREAT DUE TO CORONA VIRUS DISEASE ("COVID-19) ON THE BIG PINE PAIUTE INDIAN RESERVATION

WHEREAS: The Big Pine Paiute Tribal Council is the federally recognized governing body of the Big Pine Paiute Reservation; and

WHEREAS: The Big Pine Paiute Tribe through its constitution and By- Laws expressly delegates to the Tribal Council the power to exercise such functions as may be necessary to protect and promote the interests of the Big Pine Paiute Tribe, including the establishment of rules of procedure for the conduct of its affairs , including but not limited to: Ordinances and Resolutions or enactments concerning land, utilities, elections, non-members, licensing or businesses taxation or the tribe requiring regulations or legislation; and

WHEREAS: The Big Pine Tribe has Tribal jurisdiction within the exterior boundaries of the Big Pine Indian Reservation with a land area of 299.5 acres; and

WHEREAS: The Big Pine Tribal Council is empowered to develop policies and ordinances for The General Welfare of the Tribe and its members; and

WHEREAS: In December 2019, an outbreak of respiratory illness due to a novel coronavirus, known as "COVID-19," was first identified in Hubei Province, China, and has spread **Outside of China, impacting more than 75 countries, including the United States and the State of California:** and

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

WHEREAS: As of March 12, 2020, there are a total of 198 positive cases of COVID-19 and four Deaths in California: 24 cases are from repatriation flights, the other 174 confirmed Cases include 60 that are travel related, 43 due to person to person transmission, 44 are community acquired and 27 are from unknown sources; and

WHEREAS: Approximately 11,100 people are self-monitoring, across 49 local health jurisdictions, after returning to the United States from travel including 53 in California, and more than 9,400 Californians across 49 countries are in home monitoring based on possible travel-based exposure to the virus, and officials expect the number of cases in California, the United States, and worldwide to increase; and

WHEREAS: 18 public health labs in the State of California are testing for COVID-19, including the California Department of Public Health laboratories located in Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino and San Diego Counties; 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 Big Pine 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

WHEREAS: If COVID-19 spreads onto the Big Pine 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 Big Pine Reservation, and limits the spread of infection in our communities and within the healthcare delivery system; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The Big Pine Tribal Council, in its capacity as the official governing body of The Tribe and pursuant to its inherent sovereignty and constitutional authority under the Articles of Association, finds it necessary to declare a State of Emergency to exist on The Big Pine Reservation in order to minimize the threat of potential outbreak and spread of COVID-19 onto the Big Pine Reservation, to make the Tribal resources available, to help formalize emergency actions already underway within the Tribal Government and assist the Big Pine Tribe to prepare for the potential outbreak and spread of COVID-19; and

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 Big Pine Emergency Operations Plan, and to delegate authority to the Public Safety Director and Chief of The Big Pine Fire Department to utilize Tribal resources, including personnel and equipment to mitigate the effects of this COVID-19 emergency for the protection of the Big Pine Membership, and the public on the Big Pine Reservation; and




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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Big Pine Tribal Council issues the following resolution based on the Policy and terms therein presented and agreed on March 16th by emergency phone poll.

CERTIFICATION

This Resolution has been passed by the Tribal Council Members of the Big Pine Paiute Tribe of the Owens Valley. This Resolution was adopted and approved at an Emergency Phone Poll March 16, 2020 in Big Pine, in the State of California, a quorum was present, by a vote of 4 Ayes, 0 Nays and 0 Abstentions, with the Chairperson present but not voting.

ATTEST:



James Rambeau, Chairman of the
The Big Pine Paiute Tribal Council



Travis Westervelt, Vice Chair
The Big Pine Paiute Tribal Council

