

**UNION PARISH POLICE JURY
AND
OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY
AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

**LOCAL DISASTER PROCLAMATION
UNION PARISH**

EXECUTIVE ORDER

**EXECUTIVE ORDER DECLARING PARISH –WIDE STATE OF
EMERGENCY AS PER THE LOUISIANA HOMELAND
SECURITY AND EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE AND DISASTER
ACT, LA. REV. STAT. 29:721, ET SEQ., AS TO CORONAVIRUS
DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)**

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act, La. Rev. Stat. 29:721, *et seq.*, confers upon the Governor of the State of Louisiana and parish policy jury presidents emergency powers to prepare and cope with emergencies and disasters, including those cause by fire, flood, earthquake or other natural or manmade causes in order to ensure that preparations will be adequate to cope with such emergencies or disasters and to preserve the lives and property of the people of the State of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, when the Parish Police Jury President determines that a disaster or emergency has occurred, or the threat thereof is imminent, La. Rev. Stat 29:727 empower him to declare a state of emergency by executive order or proclamation; and

WHEREAS, La. Rev. Stat. 29:727(F) authorizes the President of the Police Jury to, among other things, suspend the provision of any regulatory ordinance prescribing the procedures for conduct of local business, or the orders, rules, or regulations of any local agency, if strict compliance with the provisions of any ordinance, order, rule, or regulation would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is responding to an outbreak of respiratory disease known as Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID – 19) caused by a novel coronavirus named SARS-CoV-2 that was first detected in China and which has now been detected in more than 100 locations internationally, including in the United States; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, Alex M. Azar II, Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services, declared a public health emergency to exist and to have existed nationwide since January 27, 2020 as a result of the 2019 Novel Coronavirus; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization publicly characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, Governor John Bel Edwards issued Proclamation No. 25JBE 2020, which declared a public health emergency to exist in the State of Louisiana as a result of the imminent threat posed to Louisiana citizens by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, cases of COVID-19 have been reported by thirty-eight (38) states and the District of Columbia; and

WHEREAS, there is reason to believe that COVID-19 may be spread amongst the population by various means of exposure, therefore posing a high probability of widespread exposure and a significant risk of substantial future harm to Union Parish citizens; and

WHEREAS, as a result of dangers presented by the emergency, Johnny Buckley, as President of the Union Parish Police Jury, heretofore invokes all rights and duties afforded him under La. Rev. Stat. 29:721 *et. seq.*, and 29:727 (D) and all other applicable statutes and regulations until further notice.

IT IS ORDERED that pursuant to the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act, La. Rev. Stat. 29:721, *et seq.*, specifically La. Rev. Stat. 29:727 (D) a Parish-wide state of emergency is declared as a result of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) which has created emergency conditions that threaten the safety of the citizens and property of this Parish and to issue all necessary orders; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Johnny Buckley, as President of the Union Parish Police Jury, maintains the authority to assume total control of the Parish, including, but not limited to, all private and public properties and utilities necessary to ensure the safety, health and welfare of the citizens and property of this Parish and to issue all necessary orders; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the office of the President of the Union Parish Police Jury will take all necessary steps to prevent the disruption of water, electricity, and other necessary utilities as a result of economic hardships to ensure the safety, health and welfare of the citizens of this Parish; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Office of the President of the Union Parish Police Jury invokes all rights and remedies afforded it under all the laws and constitutions of the United States and the State of Louisiana; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Office of the President of the Union Parish Police Jury invokes all rights and remedies afforded it under Louisiana Revised Statutes; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Office of the President of the Union Parish Police Jury invokes all rights and remedies afforded it under the Union Parish Code of Ordinances; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any person or entity who interrupts or interferes with the control of the Parish and/or the President of the Union Parish Police Jury shall be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the state of emergency shall remain in effect until terminated by Executive Order.

At Farmerville, Louisiana, this 19th day of March 2020 at _____ p.m.



Johnny Buckley
President Union Parish Police Jury



Greg C. Gossler, Director
Office of Homeland Security
And Emergency Preparedness