



BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE GRATIOT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

Whereas, in accordance with the Michigan Emergency Management Act of 1976, I am declaring a Local State of Emergency within the boundaries of the County of Gratiot, Michigan, effective at 12:01, Monday, March 16; and

Whereas, on Tuesday, March 10, 2020, Governor Whitmer declared a State of Emergency after two individuals were confirmed testing presumptively positive for COVID-19; and

Whereas, one individual has been confirmed testing presumptively positive for COVID-19 in Montcalm County; and

Whereas, Montcalm County is adjacent to Gratiot County, and individuals travel daily between the two counties; and

Whereas, on Friday, March 13, 2020, the Gratiot County Emergency Operations Plan was activated; and

Whereas, Gratiot County, in partnership with the State of Michigan, the Mid-Michigan District Health Department, and all governmental units in Gratiot County must maximize efforts to slow the spread of the virus and help Gratiot County residents to take preventative measures to lower their risk and to share information with their friends, family, and co-workers; and

Whereas, I am requiring that all necessary measure be taken to address this Local State of Emergency Declaration including, but not limited to, those listed on the attached "Mandatory Actions and Prohibitions" document and that local resources be utilized to the fullest possible extent; and

Whereas, this action is being taken to protect the public health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Gratiot County; and

Whereas, this Declaration will be placed on the agenda of the meeting of the Gratiot County Board of Commissioners on Tuesday, March 17, 2020, to take action to support this Declaration; and

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Declaration
March 15, 2020

Now, Therefore be it resolved, I, George Bailey, Chairperson of the Gratiot County Board of Commissioners declare a Local State of Emergency in the county of Gratiot, effective 12:01 AM, Monday, March 16, 2020, and to continue until further notice.

FOR THE COUNTY OF GRATIOT:


George Bailey, Chairperson

Mandatory Actions and Prohibitions
Attachment to Local State of Emergency
For the Boundaries of the County of Gratiot, Michigan

For the duration of the Local Emergency, the following provisions apply to all public, governmental, and private entities:

1. There shall be no gathering at which more than fifty (50) people are in attendance. This does not apply to retail outlets, restaurants, or other businesses but all are required to take prudent measures regarding enhanced cleaning and safe spacing of persons.
2. Public bodies shall cancel all non-essential committee meetings or, in the alternative, shall meet by telephone or videoconference.
3. County commission, city commission and township and village governing bodies may meet, at their discretion. Governing bodies may limit the number of members of the public in the meeting room so as to allow for safe spacing, or do real-time broadcasting, if such facilities are readily and immediately available
4. Any entity serving food shall adopt enhanced cleaning practices and adhere to all rules and regulations issued by the Mid-Michigan District Health Department.
5. Questions about virus symptoms, preventative measures, travel advisories and for general information shall not be directed to the county 911/central dispatch service. Such issues are addressed at cdc.gov, mmdhd.org, Michigan.gov/coronavirus, and by telephone at 211 of Michigan.
6. The Gratiot County Animal Shelter will open by appointment only Monday through Friday between the hours of 1:00 – 5:00 pm.
7. All congregate meals provided by the Commission on Aging are cancelled and sites will be closed. Meals on Wheels will be delivered but only in frozen form.
8. Staff of any entity who arrives at work exhibiting symptoms of illness are to be sent home.
9. Employees shall answer all questions by central dispatch personnel or first responders should emergency services be required for any customer or patron.
10. All public transit services shall be cancelled. However, non-emergency medical transportation for dialysis treatments will continue.
11. Staff of all entities are required to use their discretion in denying access or service to any patron appearing with signs of serious illness.
12. Gratiot County Office of Emergency Management shall coordinate and control Public Safety Emergency Services response to this emergency.