

RESOLUTION NO. 2876

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1
OF LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER TO TAKE
ACTION TO ENSURE THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF EMPLOYEES AND THE PUBLIC; AND
DECLARING AN EMERGENCY UNDER RCW 39.04.280

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020 the United States Department of Public Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar declared a public emergency for the novel coronavirus (COVID19) commencing January 27, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on February 29, 2020 Governor Jay Inslee signed a Proclamation declaring a State of Emergency exists in all counties in the State of Washington due to the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 and directed that the plans and procedures of the Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan be implemented; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020 the Lewis County Board of County Commissioners declared a county-wide state of emergency related to the significant health threat caused by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the District provides an essential public service that is critical to public health, safety, and the local economy; and

WHEREAS, the District's employees are its most important asset and the District cannot perform its essential public service without employees who are available and fit to perform their job duties; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that, effective immediately, the General Manager is hereby authorized to take any appropriate and legal action to ensure business continuity and for the health and safety of employees.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the General Manager is authorized to declare an emergency exists as defined by RCW 39.04.280 (3), waive competitive bidding requirements, and award necessary contracts in order to purchase goods and services necessary to address the COVID-19 emergency.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the General Manager may, within applicable legal requirements,

implement and/or amend: 1) leave and compensation programs, 2) remote work programs, and 3) office and business hours.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners authorize the Manager to implement a customer billing relief program which may include a reduction in or crediting against charges for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days and not exceeding \$1.2 Million in total, unless otherwise directed by the Board.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the foregoing authority extends for the duration of the emergency, or until the Board withdraws such authority; and the Board requests regular updates regarding the state of the emergency, no less frequently than monthly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution is not intended to establish precedent for how similar emergency situations or normal business will be addressed in the future.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Commissioners of Public Utility District No. 1 of Lewis County this 17th day of March 2020.

ATTEST:



Tim Cournyer, Vice President

Ed Rothlin, Secretary



Ben M. Kostick, President