CITY OF BURKBURNETT, TEXAS
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS DECLARATION OF LOCAL STATE OF DISASTER
DUE TO PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, beginning in December 2019, a novel coronavirus, now designated SARS-CoV2 which causes the disease COVID-19, has been declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organization; and

WHEREAS, the symptoms of COVID-19 can range from mild to severe illness and cause further complications including death; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 virus mainly spreads between people who are in close contact with one another through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Governor of the State of Texas issued a proclamation certifying that COVID-19 poses an imminent threat of disaster in the state and declaring a state of disaster for all counties in Texas; and

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, the Texas Department of State Health Services determined that COVID- 19 represents a public health disaster within the meaning of Chapter 81 of the Texas Health and Safety Code; and

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2020, Mayor Carl Law issued a Declaration of Local State of Disaster Due to Public Health Emergency; and

WHEREAS, the City of Burkburnett, Texas, is taking extraordinary measures to prevent the spread of this potentially devastating disease in our community; and

WHEREAS, said state of disaster requires that certain emergency protective measures be taken pursuant to the Texas Disaster Act of 1975 relating to Emergency Management and Public Health, pursuant to Chapter 418 of the Texas Government Code.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF BURKBURNETT, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. That a local state of disaster for public health emergency is hereby declared for the City of Burkburnett, Texas, pursuant to Section 418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code.

SECTION 2. That pursuant to Section 418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code the state of disaster shall continue until April 20, 2020 or until the Texas Department of State Health Services lifts the determination that COVID-19 represents a public health disaster within the meaning of Chapter 81 of the Texas Health and Safety Code, which ever occurs first.

SECTION 3. That pursuant to Section 418.108(c) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster for public health emergency shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the City Clerk.

SECTION 4. That pursuant to Section 418.108(d) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster activates the City of Burkburnett, Texas, emergency management plan, and authorizes the furnishing of aid and assistance under the declaration.

SECTION 5.   That this declaration authorizes the City to take any actions necessary to promote health and suppress the virus, including the quarantine of persons and occupied structures, examining and regulating healthcare facilities, regulating ingress and egress from the City, regulating ingress and egress to occupied structures, establishment of quarantine stations, and other healthcare facilities, and ensuring compliance for those who do not comply with the City's rules, pursuant to Section 122.006 of the Health and Safety Code.

SECTION 6. Pursuant to Section 418.108(h) of the Texas Government Code, the City of Burkburnett will, as a minimum standard, follow the evacuation, ingress to and egress from the City and movement and occupancy of premises as ordered by the Wichita County Judge.

SECTION 7.   In accordance with Texas Government Code §418.173, a person who knowingly or intentionally violates this declaration commits an offense, punishable by a fine up to $1,000.00 or confinement in jail for a term that does not exceed 180 days.

SECTION 8. That this declaration hereby authorizes the use of all lawfully available enforcement tools.

SECTION 9.   That this declaration shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

DECLARED this 23rd day of March 2020.

                                                    CARL LAW
                                                    Carl Law, Mayor
                                                    City of Burkburnett, Texas