

**CHAVES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA**

April 23, 2020 – 9:00 a.m.

**Chaves County Administrative Center – Joseph R. Skeen Building
Commission Chambers - #1 St. Mary's Place**

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

AGENDA ITEM

- 1. Resolution Requesting the Governor to Reopen Businesses Closed by Executive and Public Health Orders**

**UNSCHEDULED COMMUNICATIONS LIMITED TO THREE MINUTES PER VISITOR, AND SHALL NOT EXCEED A TOTAL OF 15 MINUTES
NO FORMAL ACTION TAKEN BY COMMISSION**

- COUNTY MANAGER'S COMMUNICATIONS**
- COMMISSIONER'S COMMUNICATIONS**
- SIGNATURE OF DOCUMENTS**
- ADJOURNMENT**

If you are an individual with a disability who is in need of a reader, qualified sign language interpreter, or any form of auxiliary aid or service to attend or participate in the hearing of a meeting, please contact the County Commissioner's office at 575-624-6600. This should be done at least one week prior to the meeting. Public documents, including the agenda and minutes, can be provided in various accessible formats. Please contact the County Commissioner's office if a summary or other type of accessible format is needed.

**THE PUBLIC CAN VIEW THIS MEETING BY LOGGING INTO THE COUNTY'S
FACEBOOK PAGE AND SUBMIT QUESTIONS THRU FACEBOOK**

AGENDA ITEM: _____

Resolution R-20-015 Resolution
Requesting the Governor to Reopen
Businesses Closed by Executive and
Public Health Orders

MEETING DATE: April 23, 2020

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT

ACTION REQUESTED BY: Stanton L. Riggs, County Manager

ACTION REQUESTED: Approve Resolution

ITEM SUMMARY:

This Resolution requests the Governor to reopen the economy of Chaves County and the State of New Mexico. The County understands that there needs to be safeguards put in place to protect the public; however, it is time to get this economy moving again.

Staff recommends approval

SUPPORT DOCUMENTS: Resolution R-20-015

SUMMARY BY: Stanton L. Riggs

TITLE: County Manager

RESOLUTION NO. R-20-015
A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO REOPEN BUSINESSES
CLOSED BY EXECUTIVE AND PUBLIC HEALTH ORDERS

WHEREAS, the entire state of New Mexico has been placed under numerous restrictive executive orders by the Governor, declaring a state of Public Emergency, and invoking the powers provided by the All Hazard Emergency Act and the Emergency Licensing Act; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Declaration of a Public Health Emergency, the Secretary of the New Mexico Department of Health issued a public health order declaring that all businesses in New Mexico cease operations except for “essential businesses;” and

WHEREAS, as a consequence of the public health order, an economic disaster has been created by defining “essential” and “non-essential” businesses which unjustly dictates winners and losers by discriminating against small businesses and specialized retailers; and

WHEREAS, many of these deemed “non-essential businesses” provide local services and sell the same products found in “essential” businesses; and

WHEREAS, these small businesses and specialized retailers are capable of enforcing social distancing standards in their facilities; and

WHEREAS, the blanket closure of small businesses and specialized retailers is an infringement upon their property rights and poses a significant threat to the ultimate survival of those businesses and to our County’s, as well as the State’s, economy; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 virus has impacted counties and cities differently in New Mexico, and less impacted counties and cities should be allowed to restart their economies immediately; and

WHEREAS, the President of the United States has set forth guidelines for opening up America’s economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners of Chaves County recommends to the Governor of the State of New Mexico that all businesses whether “essential” or “non-essential” be allowed to immediately open to the public and conduct business by implementing social distancing and other mitigation measures.

LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED, that the State of New Mexico recognize the disparate impacts of the COVID-19 virus on counties and cities in New Mexico and develop rules and regulations accordingly.

Done this 23rd day of April, 2020.

BOARD OF CHAVES COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

William E. Cavin, Chairman

Jeff Bilberry, Vice-Chairman

ATTEST:

Dara Dana, Member

T. Calder Ezzell Jr, Member

Dave Kunko
County Clerk

Robert Corn, Member