# MINUTES OF CALLED MEETING SALUDA COUNTY COUNCIL THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2020 at 2:00 P.M. COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF SALUDA COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING 400 WEST HIGHLAND STREET, SALUDA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29138

# A. CALL TO ORDER

The Called Meeting of Saluda County Council was called to order by Vice-Chairman J. Frank Daniel, Sr. at 2:00 P.M.

Present were:

Vice-Chm. J. Frank Daniel, Sr.

Coun. Jones P. Butler Coun. Wayne Grice

Also present were:

County Director, Sandra G. Padget

Clerk to Council, Karen T. Whittle

Absent was:

Coun. Justin Anderson

## B. INVOCATION

Coun. Grice delivered the invocation.

### C. PUBLIC INFORMATION

It is noted by the Clerk herein that in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the called meeting and agenda were given to the local news media and properly posted, to include the county website.

D. Vice-Chm. Daniel recognized Emergency Management Director, Josh Morton for consideration to adopt an ordinance declaring a State of Emergency for Saluda County due to the threats posed by the 2019 Novel Coronavirus ("COVID-19").

Before discussion of the emergency ordinance, Mr. Morton informed Council and the public he was contacted at approximately Noon on March 19<sup>th</sup> by the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control to confirm that Saluda County had one current, active case of COVID-19.

Mr. Morton explained to Council and the public that a state of emergency was a procedure that gave authority beyond what was normal and gave direction from County Council as to how to proceed during the emergency. Mr. Morton said the ordinance would give the County Director additional authority to allow work to be performed around some of the County policies and procedures normally in place for the operation of county government such as, it would allow County staff to work around procurement policies on purchases such as, medical commodities

without having to go through a lengthy bid process, and would allow authority to reallocate funding to make sure the County had everything needed to effectively respond to the situation. Mr. Morton said the ordinance would have very little, if any direct impact on the general public.

On motion of Coun. Grice, seconded by Coun. Butler, it was unanimously approved to adopt the Emergency Ordinance for COVID-19 declaring a state of emergency for Saluda County due to the threats posed by the 2019 Novel Coronavirus ("COVID-19").

## E. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Coun. Butler, seconded by Coun. Grice, it was unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 2:05 P.M.

Karen T. Whittle Clerk to Council

7. Frank Daniel, Sr. Vice-Chairman

April 13, 2020 Date Approved