

RESOLUTION 2020 - 15

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING TREASURER/CLERK AND RECORDER AND ELECTION ADMINISTRATOR PAULETTE DEHART CONDUCT THE JUNE 2, 2020 PRIMARY ELECTION AS A MAIL BALLOT ELECTION

**WHEREAS**, Executive Orders 2-2020 and 3-2020 declare that a state of emergency exists in Montana due to the global outbreak of COVID-19 Novel Coronavirus; and

**WHEREAS**, Montana Governor Steve Bullock on March 25, 2020 issued a Directive Implementing Executive Orders 2-2020 and 3-2020 and providing for measures to implement the 2020 June primary election safely; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor's Directive permits Counties in Montana to conduct the June 2, 2020 primary election under the mail ballot provisions of Title 13, Chapter 19 and includes measures required for safe registration and voting; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 13-19-202, MCA authorizes a governing body to request that a particular election be conducted under the mail ballot provisions of Title 13, Chapter 19; and

**WHEREAS**, the Lewis and Clark County Commissioners on March 13, 2020 declared a Public Health Emergency in Resolution 2020-12; and

**WHEREAS**, a polling place election poses risks to the health and safety of voters, poll workers, and non-voters alike; and

**WHEREAS**, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends election officials "[e]ncourage mail-in methods of voting if allowed in the jurisdiction," and "[e]ncourage early voting, where voter crowds may be smaller throughout the day";

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of County Commissioners hereby request that Election Administrator Paulette DeHart conduct the June 2, 2020 Primary under the mail ballot provisions of Title 13, Chapter 19 and in accordance with the Governor's March 25, 2020 Directive Implementing Executive Orders 2-2020 and 3-2020 and providing for measures to implement the 2020 June primary election safely.

DATED this 31 day of March, 2020

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Susan Good Geise, Chair

ATTEST:

Paulette DeHart  
Paulette DeHart, Clerk of the Board