RESOLUTION 2020 - 64

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING TREASURER/CLERK AND RECORDER AND ELECTION ADMINISTRATOR PAULETTE DEHART CONDUCT THE NOVEMBER 3, 2020 GENERAL ELECTION AS A MAIL BALLOT ELECTION WITH AN IN-PERSON VOTING OPTION

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 August 6, 2020 issued a Directive Implementing Executive Orders 2-2020 and 3-2020 and providing for measures to implement the 2020 November general election safely; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's Directive permits Counties in Montana to conduct the November 3, 2020 general 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 "offer alternative voting methods that minimize direct contact and reduce crowd size at polling locations";

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners hereby request that Election Administrator Paulette DeHart conduct the November 3, 2020 general election under the mail ballot provisions of Title 13, Chapter 19 and in accordance with the Governor's August 6, 2020 Directive Implementing Executive Orders 2-2020 and 3-2020 and providing for measures to implement the 2020 November general election safely.

DATED this 3 day of Wifts

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Susan Good Geise, Chair

Paulette DeHart, Clerk of the Board