**PROCLAMATION 2020-01**

**WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization (WHO) has declared COVID-19 (Coronavirus) to be a global pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, the President of the United States of America has declared an infectious disease National Emergency Declaration to combat COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor of the State of Oklahoma has declared a State of Emergency for all 77 counties in Oklahoma; and

**WHEREAS**, health professionals and researchers have determined COVID-19 is spread by human contact and interaction; and

**WHEREAS**, practicing methods such as social distancing is believed to slow the spread of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, the spread of COVID-19 is a disaster affecting life, health, and safety of town residents and non-residents alike; and

**WHEREAS**, the aforementioned conditions constitute a threat to the safety and welfare of the Town of Sperry, and create an emergency situation within the meaning of Section 683.3, Oklahoma Emergency Act of 2003, as amended.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY STATE LAW AND APPROVAL OF THIS PROCLAMATION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, I, DEBRA BURCH, MAYOR OF THE TOWN OF SPERRY, OKLAHOMA, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM AND DECLARE:**

**SECTION ONE**: A state of emergency is hereby declared to exist within the corporate limits of the Town of Sperry, Oklahoma.

**SECTION TWO**: That the Mayor may establish a curfew as deemed necessary for the preservation of the health, safety and welfare of the public.

**SECTION THREE**: That Sperry Town Hall shall remain open for regular business and individual access unless Town Hall is later closed to public access to protect public health. The public is encouraged to conduct business with the Town of Sperry or the Sperry Utility Services Authority by phone, e-mail or mail to the extent possible.

**SECTION FOUR**: That the Mayor, after consultation with relevant Department Heads is hereby authorized to make necessary operational changes to protect employees and the public from exposure to the COVID-19 virus, including, but not limited to, the following:

a. Implementing best practices for handwashing, cleaning, and social distancing;

b. Ordering self-quarantine of employees as recommended protocols dictate;

c. Closing service windows at Town Hall;

d. Closing any Town property or facility to the public, including Town Hall;

e. Implementing protocols to limit the exposure of First Responders to COVID-19;

f. Cancelling or rescheduling of job-related training or conferences;

g. Discouraging off-duty employees from travel or attendance at crowded venues of all kinds and encouraging off-duty social distancing and sanitary precautions;

h. Encouraging all employees to follow recommended protocols if exhibiting symptoms indicative of COVID-19.

**SECTION FIVE:** Sperry Municipal Court dockets are suspended until further notice. Currently-scheduled arraignments, hearings, and trials will be rescheduled. The Mayor, Municipal Court Clerk and Municipal Judge shall agree upon the date when Municipal Court shall next re-commence and when that occurs, all regularly-scheduled Municipal Court dates shall occur as scheduled. The Municipal Court Clerk shall issue written notification of new Court dates for all matters that were not heard while Municipal Court is suspended. Court fines shall continue be paid to the Municipal Court Clerk during regular business hours.

**SECTION SIX**: All in-person gatherings and meetings for social, spiritual and recreational purposes, including, but not limited to, community, civic, public, leisure, religious, sporting events, parades, concerts, festivals, conventions, fundraisers and similar activities are **strongly discouraged** until the termination of this emergency declaration.

**SECTION SEVEN:** Restaurants, bars and other privately-owned gathering places are **strongly** **encouraged** to limit the number of patrons so that at least six (6) feet of space is available to each patron, for social distancing purposes. Such facilities are further **strongly encouraged** to offer “take-out” or “delivery” options only.

**SECTION EIGHT:** Local gyms, places of worship and schools are **strongly encouraged** to discontinue all group activities and to significantly increase and enhance facility cleaning regimens.

**SECTION NINE:** This Proclamation shall become effective upon execution by the Mayor of the Town of Sperry.

**SECTION TEN**: This state of emergency shall continue until terminated by the Board of Trustees of the Town of Sperry.

**SECTION ELEVEN**: This Proclamation is subject to amendment and supplement if conditions so warrant.

**APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND PROCLAIMED THIS 19th DAY OF MARCH, 2020, BY THE MAYOR OF THE TOWN OF SPERRY, OKLAHOMA, A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION.**

 TOWN OF SPERRY, OKLAHOMA

 By:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Debra Burch, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Connie Bias, Town Clerk

(SEAL)