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Schoharie County Declares State of Emergency

In response to COVID-19

Schoharie, NY, March 16, 2020– In response to COVID-19, Schoharie County Board of Supervisors Chairman, William Federice, appointed a task force of county department heads to address concerns and provide recommendations to a Board of Supervisors special COVID-19 committee. In accordance with recommendations from the task force, including Schoharie County Department of Health Director, Office of Emergency Services Director, County Sheriff and County Administrator Chairman Federice has declared a State of Emergency in Schoharie County effective 11:00 am today, until rescinded. The State of Emergency has been declared to preserve the public health and safety and to make available and provide for all required assistance which is vital to health, security and well-being of the citizens of Schoharie County.

LOCAL EMERGENCY ORDERS ISSUED:

In accordance with this Declaration of Emergency, the following local emergency orders have been issued:

- 1. Schoharie County will temporarily suspend current Policy and Procedures to follow alternate staffing and compensation measures to protect the safety of our employees and visitors during the COVID-19 pandemic.*
- 2. Schoharie County will temporarily suspend current procurement and administrative procedures to expedite emergency purchases and service delivery. The purchasing agent shall seek County Administrator (or designee) sign-off for necessary budget modifications to change appropriation amounts, suspend normal contracting procedures and allow other irregular practices. County Administrator shall provide a weekly report of all such decisions to the Chairman of the Board (or designee) as a method of oversight.*
- 3. Board of Supervisors meetings and committee meetings may be suspended or conducted through telephone or other electronic means.*
- 4. All Schoharie County Schools shall be closed as of March 16, 2020 to help slow the spread of COVID-19.*

I hereby direct all departments and agencies of Schoharie County to take the necessary steps to protect life and property, public infrastructure and provide such emergency assistance deemed necessary.

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If you would like more information about the State of Emergency or Emergency Orders, please contact the Office of Emergency Services at 518-295-2276