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COUNTY COURT JOURNAL

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

FOR TILLAMOOK COUNTY, OREGON

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In the Matter of Declaring a Wage Emergency for Certain United States Government Employees

RESOLUTION #R-19-<u>001</u>

TASSI O'NEIL COUNTY CLERK

This matter came before the Tillamook County Board of Commissioners on the 23rd day of January, 2019. The Board, being fully apprised of the records and files herein, finds as follows:

WHEREAS, a partial shutdown of the United States government began on December 22, 2018 resulting in a freeze on the payment of wages to certain employees; and

WHEREAS, the federal government agencies that are affected by the shutdown and that have an active presence in Tillamook County include the Department of Homeland Security (U.S. Coast Guard), the Department of Agriculture (U.S. Forest Service and Natural Resources Conservation Service), and the Department of Interior (Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service); and

WHEREAS, the federal employees that are continuing to work without pay are putting their lives at risk every day in dangerous conditions to protect our county's fishing, forest, and farming industries, which are critical to our local economy; and

WHEREAS, these federal employees are woven into the fabric of our community, and they are or will soon be struggling to pay for housing, transportation, food, medications, and other living expenses; and

WHEREAS, Tillamook County is concerned that the undue financial and emotional stress of wage uncertainty on these federal employees poses an imminent threat to public health, safety, and welfare; and

WHEREAS, the federal government has abdicated its responsibility to pay its employees for nebulous political gain, but it has guaranteed back pay for the federal government employees affected by the shutdown; and

WHEREAS, Tillamook County is a small, tight-knit community that takes pride in uniting and supporting each other in a time of crisis.

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NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that:

- 1. Tillamook County declares a wage emergency for certain U.S. government employees that are being affected by the shutdown and requests our local retailers, landlords, financial institutions, and other businesses to extend credit and/or waive late fees to these employees during this crisis.
- 2. Tillamook County requests that all of our citizens provide as much support as possible to the affected federal employees in our community during this crisis by lending a hand and compassion as needed, including preparing meals, offering child care services, and contributing to our food banks.

Dated this 23rd day of January, 2019.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR TILEAMOOK COUNTY, OREGON Yamamoto, Chair Bill Buertle

Bill Baertlein, Vice-Chair

Mary Faith Bell, Commissioner

ATTEST: Tassi O'Neil, County Clerk

By:

Aye Nay Abstain/Absent

TO FORM: APPROVED AS argent, County Counsel /illiam

