

NVE TC Chairman

Darrel Olsen

Council Members

Tom Andersen

Pam Smith

Jack Hopkins

Raven Cunningham

Executive Director

Bert Adams

Executive Assistant

Reyna Newirth

**City Council Joint Work Session with
the NVE Tribal Council
April 22, 2020 @ 12:00 pm
Cordova Center Community Rooms
and via YouTube and Teleconference
Agenda**

A. Call to order

B. Roll call

Chairman Darrel Olsen, Tribal Council members Tom Andersen, Pam Smith, Jack Hopkins and Raven Cunningham.

Mayor Clay Koplín, Council members Tom Bailer, Cathy Sherman, Jeff Guard, Melina Meyer, Anne Schaefer, David Allison and David Glasen

C. Work Session topic

1. Ideas for working together and sharing resources during the 2020 COVID-19 Pandemic

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D. Adjournment

Mayor

Clay Koplín

Council Members

Tom Bailer

Cathy Sherman

Jeff Guard

Melina Meyer

Anne Schaefer

David Allison

David Glasen

City Manager

Helen Howarth

City Clerk

Susan Bourgeois

Deputy Clerk

Tina Hammer

Student Council

William Deaton

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10,000 years in our Traditional Homeland, Prince William Sound, the Copper River Delta, and the Gulf of Alaska

Resolution 2020-04-01

**A RESOLUTION BY THE NATIVE VILLAGE OF EYAK
DECLARING A DISASTER AND STATE OF EMERGENCY TO THE GLOBAL COVID-19
PANDEMIC AND NON-ESSENTIAL TRAVEL BAN**

- WHEREAS:** The Native Village of Eyak Tribal Council (hereafter “the Tribe”) is a federally-recognized Indian Tribe listed in the Secretary of the Interior’s annual list of federally-recognized Tribes issued in accordance with the Federally Recognized Indian Tribes List Act of 1994, Pub. L. No. 103-454, *see* 85 Fed. Reg. 5462, 5466 (Jan. 30, 2020), and
- WHEREAS:** The Tribal Council has the authority to enact resolutions, regulations, and statutes to safeguard and promote the peace, health, safety, and general welfare of the Tribe and its members in conformance with applicable law; and
- WHEREAS:** In accordance with the Constitution, the Tribe held a Special Meeting on April 14, 2020 to address the global COVID-19 pandemic; and
- WHEREAS:** The Tribe recognizes that rural Alaska and specifically Alaska Native communities suffered terribly from the great influenza pandemic of 1918-1919 and multiple earlier epidemics of diseases brought to Alaska by explorers, traders and settlers, with immense and tragic loss of life and extraordinary damage to our culture, but that a few villages successfully avoided infection by imposing rigid quarantines and preventing outsiders from entering; and
- WHEREAS:** COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death and has not yet been adequately contained and it is believed that COVID-19 is most often spread from close person-to-person contact and is thought to occur mainly via respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes, similar to how influenza and other respiratory pathogens spread; and
- WHEREAS:** The Centers for Disease Control (“CDC”) has issued guidelines, which in recent days have been revised and amended a number of times, that encourage individuals to limit person-to-person contact, practice social distancing, and directing older individuals, those with severe underlying medical conditions, and those with symptoms of respiratory illness, to practice self-isolation; and
- WHEREAS:** Due to the ongoing spread of COVID-19 within Alaska, the Tribe is increasingly concerned for the health and wellbeing of our members, the tribal community of Cordova, our elders and our children, and that of the surrounding area; and
- WHEREAS:** On March 11, 2020, Governor Mike Dunleavy issued a Public Health Disaster Emergency Declaration; and numerous doctors in Alaska have called on the Governor to ban all non-essential travel in the State; and

WHEREAS: On March 23, 2020, Governor Mike Dunleavy issued Health Mandate 10.1, which restricts non-essential air travel into and out of the state of Alaska and requires all people arriving in Alaska from other states or countries to immediately self-quarantine for 14 days and monitor for illness; and

WHEREAS: On March 27, 2020, Governor Mike Dunleavy issued Health Mandate 12 to control the movement of individuals within Alaska in order to prevent, slow, and otherwise disrupt the spread of the virus that causes COVID-19; and

WHEREAS: Health Mandate 12 acknowledges the unique threat to small communities posed by COVID-19 and allows such communities to adopt restrictions that go further than the State's Health Mandate ("Alaska Small Community Emergency Travel Order"); and

WHEREAS: The Alaska Small Community Emergency Travel Order was later amended to ban any small community from adopting further restrictions if they have a Critical Access Hospital or other certain hospital facilities, presumably to ensure residents of nearby areas have continued access to emergent medical care; and

WHEREAS: The Cordova Community Medical Center is a Critical Access Hospital, but according to local medical experts, it does not have the capacity to deal with a surge of COVID-19 patients; and

WHEREAS: The individuals coming to Cordova now are not permanent residents and are not coming to seek medical care at the Cordova Community Medical Center, but rather are coming for personal financial or economic gain; and

WHEREAS: In accordance with CDC guidelines, the Tribe strongly recommends residents of Cordova:

- Shelter-in-place during this pandemic by staying at home as much as possible, except to work in certain critical jobs; to buy, sell, or deliver groceries or other important goods; to receive or provide health care; or to get fresh air without contacting others; and
- On the limited occasions when individuals leave home, they must maintain social distancing of at least six feet from any person outside their household; wear a mask covering their nose and mouth; and practice recommended hygiene, including regular hand washing and disinfecting their homes; and

WHEREAS: The Tribe believes anyone returning to Cordova from the greater Alaska area, outside of Alaska and outside of the United States must self-quarantine in their homes for a period no less than 14 days to protect the community; and

WHEREAS: The Tribe will continue to work with the City of Cordova, State, Federal and Tribal partners to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That due to the global pandemic of COVID-19, the Native Village of Eyak Tribal Council hereby declares a State of Emergency and Disaster; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Tribe calls upon the City of Cordova to ban all non-essential travel into our tribal community of the Native Village of Eyak and Cordova, Alaska; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Native Village of Eyak Tribal Council urges the City of Cordova to adopt an emergency ordinance with the following restrictions:

1. Any non-permanent residents that seek to enter Cordova by boat, plane or any other mechanism must provide an address that they will be able to remain in for the duration of their stay in Cordova and that they can quarantine and self-isolate in for 14 days upon arrival, before departing for Cordova;
2. All individuals that return to Cordova from elsewhere in Alaska or outside the State must quarantine and self-isolate for at least 14 days upon arrival;
3. Any non-permanent residents that seek to enter Cordova by boat, plane or any other mechanism must have a job before departing for Cordova and must provide the name of their employer before departing for Cordova;
4. All employers, including those involved in the fisheries and fish processing industry, that employ non-permanent residents must provide supplies, including food and personal protective equipment, for those temporary residents from non-local supply sources;
5. All employers, including those involved in the fisheries and fish processing industry, that employ non-permanent residents must share their COVID-19 mitigation plans with the City of Cordova and the Native Village of Eyak before bringing any non-resident employees into the community;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the City of Cordova should update these emergency restrictions regularly, but at the least every 24 hours as-needed, as it reviews the progression of COVID-19 and that the City of Cordova should be prepared to impose more stringent restrictions should there be an outbreak; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Tribe expects to continue working jointly with the City Council and other City officials to avoid the spread of COVID-19 and implement measures to protect the community.

CERTIFICATION:

I, hereby certify that I, Darrel Olsen, am Chairman of the Native Village of Eyak Traditional Tribal Council, consisting of 5 duly elected members, and that this **Resolution 2020-04-01** was considered and APPROVED by the council on April 14, 2020 and that the vote was 4 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstaining, and 0 Absent and that the foregoing resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

Darrel Olsen
Darrel Olsen, Chairman

4/16/2020
Date

Pam Smith
Pam Smith, Secretary-Treasurer

4/16/2020
Date