**April 10, 2020**

**DECLARATION OF THE BOARD PRESIDENT**

**ALTERING THE REGULAR MEETING LOCATION**

**DUE TO A LOCAL EMERGENCY CAUSED BY THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC**

**WHEREAS,** the Gold Mountain Community Services District ("District") is an independent special district and the meetings of its legislative body are open and public in compliance with the legal requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code § 54950 *et seq.);* and

**WHEREAS**, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we are in a state of emergency, as established by the Governor on March 4, 2020 via Proclamation, by the Plumas County Public Health Agency by Resolution #20-8473 on March 17, 2020 and by the Plumas County Board of Supervisors by Resolution #20-8474 on March 17, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 19, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order N-33-20 directing all individuals living in the State of California to stay home or at their place of residence, except as to maintain continuity of operations of specified critical infrastructure; and

**WHEREAS,** the Governor identified a list of Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers to help state, local, tribal and industry partners as they work to protect communities. This list includes critical government workers and identifies water and wastewater and other service providers as necessary to maintain safety and sanitation; and

**WHEREAS,** on March 17, 2020, the District Manager promulgated certain rules and orders establishing alternative staffing levels, temporarily closing District facilities to the public, and altering the public services provided in order to ensure social distancing and protect the life and property of the District, its employees, and the residents of Plumas County; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to continue to have meetings of the various legislative bodies of the District in order to maintain the critical public health and safety services and operations provided; and

**WHEREAS,** Section 54954(a) of the Brown Act requires that the District specify its regular meeting time and place by ordinance, resolution or bylaws; and

**WHEREAS,** the District's regular meeting place has been established as the conference room of the District's office at 150 Pacific Street, Suite 8 in Portola, CA and as directed by district Policy No. 5010 “Board Meetings” of the District Policy Manual, and

**WHEREAS,** Government Code section 54954(e) allows the Board President to designate an alternate location for the meetings to take place if, due to an emergency, it is unsafe to meet in the designated location; and

**WHEREAS,** on March 17, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order N-29-20 which authorized meetings of local legislative bodies to be held by teleconference or other electronic means as long as notice is provided to the public and the meeting is made accessible in specified ways to allow the public to observe and participate; and

**WHEREAS,** it is my intent to allow the Board and its other legislative bodies to continue to hold meetings in order to receive information, provide direction, and make decisions on behalf of the District while still complying with social distancing requirements during the pendency of this pandemic;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, on behalf of the District, I, Cary Curtis, President of the Board, hereby find and declare all the following:

1. The above referenced recitals are true and correct and material to the adoption of this Declaration.

2. The District offices at 150 Pacific Street, Portola, CA shall be temporarily closed to the public.

3. The regular meetings of the Board, and any and all other meetings of the District's legislative bodies that are subject to the Brown Act, may be held via teleconference or other electronic means, in the manner set forth in the sample agenda notice attached to this Declaration, which may be updated, from time to time, in the actual agenda notice for the meeting of the legislative body.

4. All members of the public seeking to observe and/or to address the local legislative body may participate in the meeting telephonically or otherwise electronically in the manner set forth in the sample agenda notice attached to this Declaration, which may be updated, from time to time, in the actual agenda notice for the meeting of the legislative body.

5. This Declaration shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect only during the period in which state or local public health officials have imposed or recommended social distancing measures.

This Declaration is not intended to, and does not, create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the Gold Mountain Community Services District, its departments, officers, employees, contractors, or any other person.

**IN WITNESS HEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand this 10th day of April 2020.

CARY CURTIS

President of the Board of Directors

**ATTEST:**

Secretary of