COGE COUNTY, GA FILED IN OFFICE 2022 JAN 20 P 4: 30

## FIRST RENEWAL OF DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY IN CORB COUNTY

WHEREAS, on December 22, 2021, due to Cobb Douglas Public Health (CDPH) reporting a surge in, and high community spread of, COVID-19 omicron variant cases in Cobb County, with the majority of hospitalizations being unvaccinated individuals, the Chairwoman issued a Declaration of Emergency activating the County's EOP and encouraging all Cobb County citizens to (1) get vaccinated; (2) wear a mask in public indoor places if unvaccinated; and (3) avoid crowds and gatherings if sick; and,

WHEREAS, the Official Code of Cobb County, Georgia, states that a declaration of emergency shall continue until the chairperson finds that the emergency conditions no longer exist, so long as the declaration of emergency is renewed prior to expiration, Cobb County Code, Sec. 34-2; and,

**WHEREAS**, CDPH reports that Cobb County's 14-day average (as of January 19, 2022) was 1,993 cases/100,000, which is nineteen times higher than the 100/100,000 threshold signifying "high community transmission"; and,

**WHEREAS**, CDPH reports that Cobb County has a COVID positivity rate of 26.9%, with a positivity rate over 5% being considered "too high"; and,

WHEREAS, Wellstar Kennestone Hospital and Wellstar Cobb Hospital are reporting "severe overcrowding" in their Emergency Departments; and,

WHEREAS, CDPH reports that, while more Cobb residents are getting vaccinated (64% have received 1 dose; 59% are fully vaccinated; 23% have received booster), the vaccination rate still needs improvement; and,

WHEREAS, the current Declaration of Emergency is set to expire on January 21, 2022, unless renewed in accordance with Sec. 34-2;

**WHEREAS,** the emergency condition that precipitated the December 22, 2021 Declaration of Emergency still exists,

**WHEREAS,** CDPH recommends extending the Declaration of Emergency for another two weeks, during which health experts expect to see a continued gradual decline in positive COVID-19 cases in Cobb County;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, pursuant to the authority vested in the Chairwoman by local and state law;

**IT IS HEREBY DECLARED** that the Declaration of Emergency in Cobb County, which is set to expire on January 21, 2022, shall be renewed for thirty (30) days.

## WHEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

1.

All terms of the December 22, 2021 Declaration of Emergency are hereby adopted by reference.

2.

All provisions of this renewal shall become effective upon signature and shall terminate on February 9, 2022, at 11:59 p.m., unless renewed again by the Chairwoman.

ENTERED at 4:30 p.m. on January 2, 2022.

COBB COUNTY, GEORGIA

(COUNTY SEAL)

Lisa N. Cupid, Chairwoman

Cobb County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Pamela L. Mabry, County Clerk

Cobb County Board of Commissioners