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*Chairman Boyd Gourneau  
Vice Chairman Neil Cody Russell  
Secretary/Treasurer Orville Langdeau Jr.*

*Tribal Council Member John McCauley  
Tribal Council Member Clyde Estes  
Tribal Council Member Marvin Grassrope Sr.*

*Lower Brule Sioux Tribal Council Meeting – March 17, 2020*

### ***RESOLUTION NO. 2020-104***

#### **RESOLUTION DECLARING A PUBLIC HEALTH STATE OF EMERGENCY DUE TO THE CONFIRMATION OF THE CORONAVIRUS ("COVID-19") IN REGIONAL AREAS SURROUNDING THE LOWER BRULE SIOUX RESERVATION OF SOUTH DAKOTA.**

**WHEREAS**, *the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe is a federally recognized Indian Tribe organized pursuant to the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934; and*

**WHEREAS**, *as empowered by the Constitution and Bylaws, Article VI, Section 1, (e), the Tribal Council as authorized by law to safeguard and promote the peace, safety, morals and general welfare of the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe and to regulate and conduct of trade and the use and disposition of property upon the reservation provided that any ordinance directly affecting nonmembers of the reservation shall be subject to review by the Secretary of the Interior; and*

**WHEREAS,** The United States Center for Disease Control (CDC) is responding to an national outbreak of a respiratory disease, Coronavirus disease, also referred to as COVID-2019, first detected in China; and

**WHEREAS,** Coronavirus 2019 (Covid-19) is a respiratory illness that can spread from person to person mainly between people who are in close contact with one another (within 6 feet) through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes, it is also possible that a person can get COVID-19 by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose, or possibly their eyes; and

**WHEREAS,** on March 17, 2020, the state of South Dakota reported 10 confirmed cases in the state including one (1) death from COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS,** visitors, employees, students and (elderly) tribal members, many of whom have primary and secondary immunodeficiency disorders, on the Lower Brule Sioux Reservation are highly vulnerable to COVID-19 due to their day-to-day working and living conditions on the reservation; and

**WHEREAS,** in just two months, the novel coronavirus spread from a cluster in Wuhan, China to an impending global pandemic with cases in more than 60 countries; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. The Tribal Council of the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe herein declares a Public Health State of Emergency for the Lower Brule Sioux Reservation due to confirmation that the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) that has been detected in South Dakota and within counties in proximity of the Lower Brule Reservation.
2. To address increase concerns of potential public health impacts due to risk and exposure to COVID-19, especially in our elderly and immunodeficiency population, the Tribal council must encourage independent responsibility and action by the tribal community in practicing recommended preemptive measures to minimize, prevent and reduce risk of exposure to and from COVID-19.
3. The Lower Brule Reservation community receives timely, consistent and correct information needed on COVID-19 on preventive measures against contraction and spread of the virus, signs, symptoms and contacting local hospitals and clinics for reporting.
4. In declaring the Public Health State of Emergency, all Lower Brule for-profit entities, programs, departments, contractors and personnel will comply with and adhere to directives, instructions, and/or policies forthcoming from supportive federal agencies such as the Indian Health Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, tribal emergency response personnel, law enforcement, the Tribal Council and the tribal Health Department as related to addressing COVID-19.

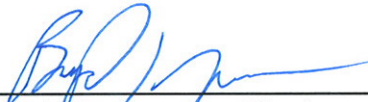
5. *In addition to local efforts, the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe herein declares that community-based efforts alone will not be enough and that aggressive action will be taken by tribal leadership to look to the UNITED STATES FEDERAL GOVERNMENT for assistance with resources in the form of, but not limited to, federal personnel, medical supplies and equipment, monetary funding and other resources as may be required to protect the health, safety and welfare of citizens of the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe; and*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,*** *that authorization is herein granted to the Tribal Chairman, or in his absence, to the Tribal Vice-Chairman, to execute any and all documents as may be necessary and appropriate to carry out the terms, conditions and intent of this Resolution.*

**CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Lower Brule Sioux Tribal Council assembled in Regular Session with a quorum present on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020 by the affirmative vote of five members for, none against, none absent, and none not-voting.

**ATTEST:**

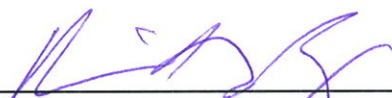
  
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**Boyd Gourneau, Chairman**  
**Lower Brule Sioux Tribe**

  
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**Neil Cody Russell, Vice-Chairman**  
**Lower Brule Sioux Tribe**

  
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**Orville Langdeau Jr., Secretary/Treasurer**  
**Lower Brule Sioux Tribe**

  
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**John McCauley, Tribal Council Member**  
**Lower Brule Sioux Tribe**

  
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**Clyde Estes, Tribal Council Member**  
**Lower Brule Sioux Tribe**

  
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**Marvin Grassrope Sr., Tribal Council Member**  
**Lower Brule Sioux Tribe**