PARISH OF OUACHITA

EMERGENCY DECLARATION

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, in response the outbreak of COVID-19/coronavirus ("COVID-19") in the New Orleans area, Governor Edwards declared a "Public Health Emergency" covering the entire State of Louisiana (Proclamation Number 25 JBE 2020);

WHEREAS, while no cases have yet appeared in Northeast Louisiana, COVID-19 has now been confirmed in 13 of Louisiana's 64 parishes; and,

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Governor's action and to facilitate and promote ongoing efforts to prepare for – and respond to -- an appearance of COVID-19 in Ouachita Parish it is now prudent to declare a local state of emergency;

THEREFORE, I, Shane Smiley, through the authority vested in me as President of the Ouachita Parish Police Jury by the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act of 1993 (La. R.S. 29:721, *et seq.*) do hereby proclaim and declare;

A STATE OF EMERGENCY to exist in Ouachita Parish, Louisiana, as a result of the threat of COVID-19. The Parish All Hazard Emergency Operation Plan and all other appropriate emergency plans and responses shall proceed to prepare for, respond to, and mitigate this threat.

Thus done and signed this 18th day of March, 2020, at _____ o'clock ____.m. and effective as of the time of the Governor's issuance of the statewide declaration of the aforesaid Public Health Emergency (Proclamation Number 25 JBE 2020) on March 11, 2020.

Shane Smiley, President Ouachita Parish Police Jury

Thus done and signed the 18th day of March, 2020, at West Monroe, Louisiana.

NOTARY PUBLIC