## Resolution of the Board of Trustees of Wells Branch Community Library District Regarding Wage Payments During Emergency Library Closings

WHEREAS, the Board acknowledges that during an emergency closing, limited work may be available for District employees;

WHEREAS, the Board finds that a need exists to address wage payments for employees that are idled;

WHEREAS, the Board determines that employees with limited work available for them to do may suffer a loss of pay during a library closure;

WHEREAS, the Board concluded that continuing wage payments to all regular employees who suffer a loss in pay due to an emergency closing serves the public purposes of maintaining morale, reducing turnover, and ensuring continuity of District staffing when the library reopens;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Wells Branch Community Library District authorizes continued wage payments to all regular employees who are idled in whole or part from work at the library during an emergency closing.

The authority granted by this resolution to continue wage payments to idled employees is effective for a closure with a maximum duration of 3 months unless the Board takes action to authorize payment for a longer duration.

Adopted this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2020, by the Board of Trustees.

President Presid

Secretary

## Resolution of the Board of Trustees of Wells Branch Community Library District Regarding Pandemic Response and Emergency Suspension of Policy

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic;

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Governor of the State of Texas certified that COVID-19 posed an imminent threat of disaster and declared a state of disaster for all counties in Texas;

WHEREAS, on March 17, the Wells Branch Community Library District closed to the public in response to an increased threat level posted by Austin-Travis County Public Health and a request by the Mayor of Austin:

WHEREAS, the Board acknowledges that during the pandemic, the Library Director needs to make frequent decisions for the benefit of the District, staff, and District residents and to place the District in the best position to resume normal operation as soon as it is safe to do so;

WHEREAS, the Board may by formal action suspend or rescind any board policy as deemed necessary, appropriate, or in the best interests of the District;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Wells Branch Community Library District delegates to the Library Director any and all authority to modify the District's Board policies at her sole discretion that she deems to be in the best interest of the District to react to situations that may be present in the District during the state-declared disaster period in order to mitigate the public health risks of COVID-19;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Library Director shall report modifications to policy to the Board at the time such modifications are made and at the first Board meeting following the exercise of the delegated authority herein.

The delegation of authority set forth in the resolution is effective from and after its passage until the library reopens to the public, for a closure with a maximum duration of 3 months unless the Board takes action to authorize leave for longer duration.

Adopted this 23rd day of March, 2020, by the Board of Trustees.

President

Secretary

## Resolution of the Board of Trustees of Wells Branch Community Library District Regarding Board Meetings Via Teleconference or Videoconference During the Pandemic

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic;

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Governor of the State of Texas certified that COVID-19 posed an imminent threat of disaster and declared a state of disaster for all counties in Texas;

WHEREAS, on March 17, the Wells Branch Community Library District closed to the public in response to an increased threat level posted by Austin-Travis County Public Health and a request by the Mayor of Austin;

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, the Governor of Texas issued an Executive Order banning gathering of 10 people or more during the COVID-19 pandemic:

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the Governor of Texas granted a temporary suspension of a limited number of open meeting laws to allow Boards to meet via teleconference or videoconference, which changes will remain in effect until terminated by the Governor or the disaster declaration is lifted or expires;

WHEREAS, the statutory requirement to permit the public to attend and offer public testimony from a physical location, even during remote meetings, has been suspended, if the Board offers alternative;

WHEREAS, the need to post notice of board meetings 72 hours in advance on a place convenient to the public has been suspended so long as the meeting is posted on the District website with free-of-charge access (link or phone number) and an electronic copy of the agenda packet;

WHEREAS, the provision to allow each member of the public to address the Board is suspended and the provision allowing the District to set reasonable rules for public comment remains in place;

WHEREAS, several laws requiring the physical presence of a quorum have also been suspended;

WHEREAS, a quorum is still required to conduct a meeting, and a meeting by teleconference or video conference must be audio recorded, and the recording made available to the public;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Wells Branch Community Library may elect to hold Board meeting via teleconference or videoconference if a quorum is unlikely to be able to meet in one place during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Adopted this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2020, by the Board of Trustees.

President \

Secretary