



Hawkins County Government

Jim Lee
County Mayor

150 E. Washington St, Suite 2
Rogersville, TN 37857

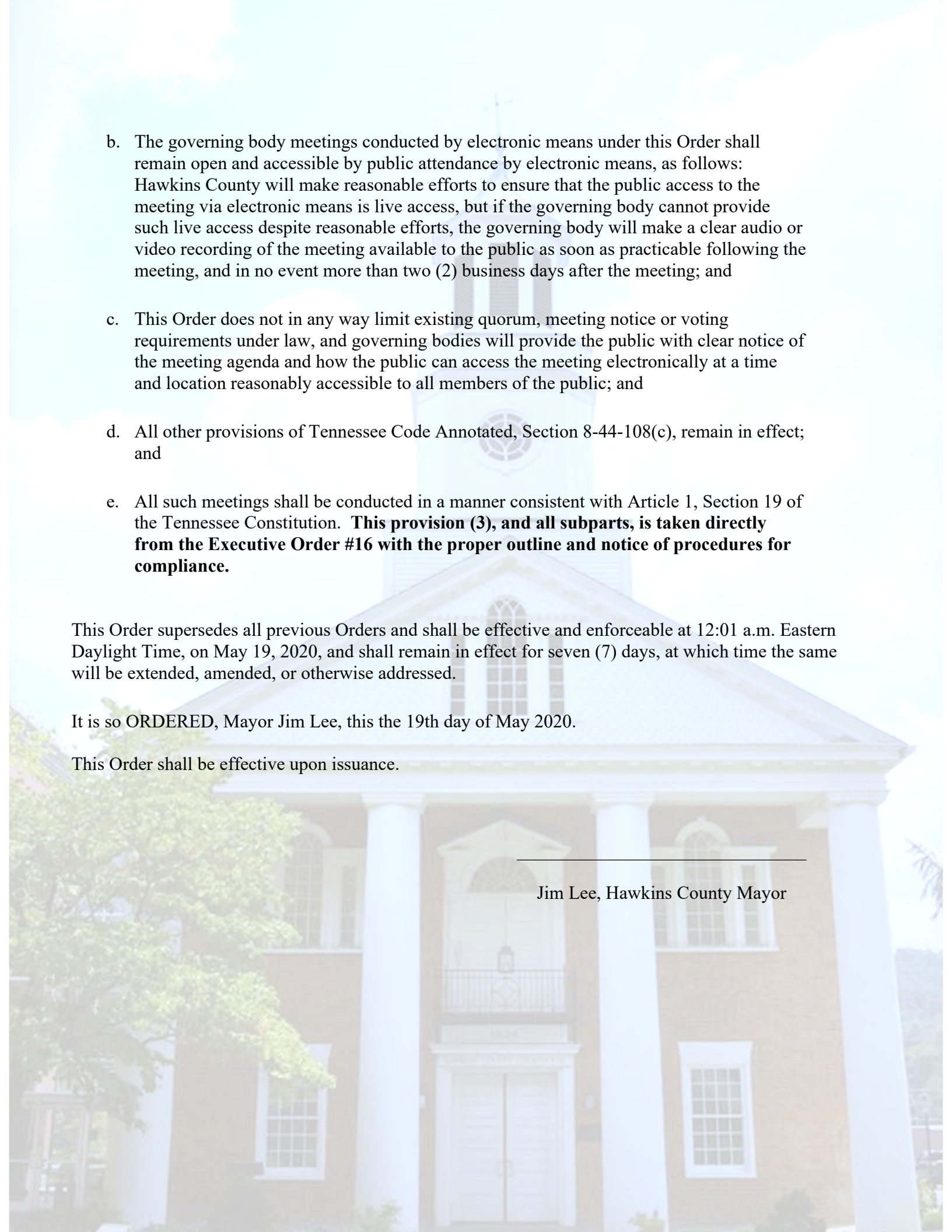
Phone: 423-272-7359
Fax: 423-272-1867
jim.lee@hawkinscountyttn.gov

STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY DIRECTIVE

Continuation Order/Action to the Declaration of Emergency in Hawkins County

Pursuant to the authority in TCA 58-8-104, I, Hawkins County Mayor Jim Lee, declared a State of Local Emergency on the 31st day of March, 2020, granting to the County Mayor certain powers as allowed under TCA 58-2-110. This declaration gives political subdivisions of government, both City and County, the ability to waive procedures relative to “performance of public works and taking whatever prudent action is necessary to ensure the health, safety and welfare of the community.

1. All of the Constitutional Officers and County Department heads controlling or supervising facilities that allow the General Public physical access will be limited, beginning May 19, 2020 through May 26, 2020.
2. County offices will remain open and with limited staff. Certain court functions and filings will still occur; however, there will be limited public access to those buildings consistent with the Order of the Tennessee Supreme Court regarding access to the courts. All County facility doors will be posted with signage indicating the office phone numbers, extensions, website and online services access as well as other pertinent information for the transaction of the public’s business by phone, fax, internet, and/or other means that office or department may develop.
1. **In accordance with the provisions of Executive Order #16 of the Honorable Bill Lee, Governor,** the President’s Coronavirus Guidelines for America and the guidance of the CDC, to limit the spread of COVID-19 so that normal life and activities may resume as soon as possible do hereby further order the following:
 - a. As a reasonable measure to protect the safety and welfare of Tennesseans while ensuring that government business may continue in a manner that is open and accessible to the public, the provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8, Chapter 44, Part 1, are hereby suspended for all Hawkins County, Tennessee (the governing body) public meetings as necessary to allow a governing body as defined in Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-44-102, to meet and conduct its essential business by electronic means, rather than being required to gather a quorum of members physically present at the same location. In doing so, the governing body **will conduct that meeting electronically without any members of the General Public allowed, only the attending members of the commission, and staff directly related to the meeting will be in physical attendance as determined by the Chair,** to protect the health, safety, and welfare of Tennesseans considering the COVID-19 outbreak, subject to the following conditions:

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- b. The governing body meetings conducted by electronic means under this Order shall remain open and accessible by public attendance by electronic means, as follows: Hawkins County will make reasonable efforts to ensure that the public access to the meeting via electronic means is live access, but if the governing body cannot provide such live access despite reasonable efforts, the governing body will make a clear audio or video recording of the meeting available to the public as soon as practicable following the meeting, and in no event more than two (2) business days after the meeting; and
- c. This Order does not in any way limit existing quorum, meeting notice or voting requirements under law, and governing bodies will provide the public with clear notice of the meeting agenda and how the public can access the meeting electronically at a time and location reasonably accessible to all members of the public; and
- d. All other provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-44-108(c), remain in effect; and
- e. All such meetings shall be conducted in a manner consistent with Article 1, Section 19 of the Tennessee Constitution. **This provision (3), and all subparts, is taken directly from the Executive Order #16 with the proper outline and notice of procedures for compliance.**

This Order supersedes all previous Orders and shall be effective and enforceable at 12:01 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time, on May 19, 2020, and shall remain in effect for seven (7) days, at which time the same will be extended, amended, or otherwise addressed.

It is so ORDERED, Mayor Jim Lee, this the 19th day of May 2020.

This Order shall be effective upon issuance.

Jim Lee, Hawkins County Mayor