



For Recording Stamp Only

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
DESCHUTES COUNTY, OREGON

An Order to Protect Health and Safety of *
the Hospital/Medical System and Citizens *
of Deschutes County during State of *
Emergency; Prohibiting Tourist Travel *
and Lodging within Unincorporated
Deschutes County

ORDER NO. 2020-017

WHEREAS, ORS 401.305 provides authority for Deschutes County to act as an emergency management agency, including authority to establish policies and protocols for defining and directing responsibilities during time of emergency; and

WHEREAS, ORS 401.309, DCC 2.04, and the Deschutes County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) authorize the county governing body to impose emergency orders upon declaration of an emergency within the county or within a designated portion of the county and to establish procedures to prepare for and carry out activities which are necessary to prevent, minimize, respond to, or recover from an emergency; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization on March 11, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Coronaviruses are a group of viruses that can cause respiratory disease, with the potential to cause serious illness or loss of life; and

WHEREAS, on March 8, 2020, Governor Kate Brown declared a state of emergency due to the COVID-19 outbreak in Oregon (Executive Order No. 20-03), finding that COVID-19 has created a threat to public health and safety, and constitutes a statewide emergency under ORS 401.025(1). Governor Brown also issued guidance regarding group gatherings and social distancing to minimize potential opportunities for the COVID-19 to spread (Executive Order No. 20-05); and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Board of County Commissioners declared a local state of emergency in Deschutes County by Order 2020-013; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020, Governor Brown issued a Stay Home, Save Lives Order, which, among other things, directed individuals to minimize travel, other than essential travel to or from a home, residence, or workplace; for obtaining food, shelter, essential consumer needs, education, health care, or emergency services; for essential business and government services; for the care of family members, household members, elderly persons, minors, dependents, persons with disabilities, or other vulnerable persons, pets or livestock; travel as directed by government officials, law enforcement, or courts; and other essential travel consistent with the directives of executive orders issued by Governor Brown and guidance from the Oregon Health Authority. (Executive Order No. 20-12); and

WHEREAS, Deschutes County Emergency Manager Sgt. Nathan Garibay and other local public health officials have cautioned that the local hospitals and emergency responders' supply of masks and critical personal protective equipment is in dangerously short supply, as are necessary ICU beds and emergency ventilator units, and that social distancing and staying at home is now the best tool that we have to slow the spread of the virus; and

WHEREAS, Dr. George Conway, Deschutes County Health Services Director, has cautioned: "If each of us starts doing our part now, we can reduce the spread of COVID-19, to protect our family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers, and could even save the lives of vulnerable people.....Our not taking the best actions now could mean that our hospitals could be overwhelmed with many very ill people in the weeks and months to come..... There is not enough capacity here, or anywhere, to take care of everyone at once, if and when this epidemic peaks, unless we take this seriously and act now to slow the spread of COVID-19;" and

WHEREAS, at a March 23, 2020 COVID-19 Update, St. Charles sponsored a public health update for elected officials and the medical community with one clear message: the medical community in the region, has a critical shortage of supplies. Without the ability to aggressively test and isolate more parties, we must prevent the spread of the virus by issuing and enforcing orders to stay home. The medical community is urging all local officials to support surge planning through a call to action: 1) share the stay home message, 2) support the hospital with increased restrictions on movement, and 3) get the word out; and

WHEREAS, travel and associated lodging between different communities has been shown to facilitate the spread and transmission of COVID-19. Travel and associated lodging between communities poses a risk to travelers, the communities they visit, those in their home communities, and others. It is imperative that we do everything we can to keep everyone as close to their homes as possible while this crisis continues. The compounding impacts and highly infectious nature of the novel coronavirus demand unprecedented measures to protect everyone; and

WHEREAS, the County's tourism industry, including Visit Central Oregon has already been responsive to this crisis, communicating that now is not the time to visit and lodge in Deschutes County and Central Oregon or anywhere, but to stay safe and stay home. This Order is to further these efforts, and to create certainty and consistency and uniform application of tourism lodging restrictions in this unique situation for the safety and health of the entire community; and

WHEREAS, Deschutes County has been a significant destination for tourism and other vacation travel and lodging, however the presence of COVID-19 in Deschutes County and throughout the state of Oregon makes tourism and associated lodging potentially hazardous to public health, and

WHEREAS, this Order will be broadly distributed, including through the County's social media channels, so the community is aware of this Order; and

WHEREAS, should the mandates in this Order not be adhered to, the County will enact future Orders which will provide for enforcement through allowable criminal and/or civil sanctions and penalties, including but not limited to fines, cease and desist orders and other financial penalties as permitted by law; now therefore,

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF DESCHUTES COUNTY, OREGON,
HEREBY ORDERS as follows:

1. A State of Emergency continues to exist throughout Deschutes County.
2. To reduce exposure to and spread of COVID-19, and in support of state orders to minimize all non-essential travel (including associated lodging), individuals are encouraged to remain at their place of permanent residence, and to refrain from travel to Deschutes County except as authorized by Governor's Executive Order 20-12.
3. All stays of less than 30 days within unincorporated Deschutes County at inns, bed and breakfasts, apartments and/or single and multi-family homes as of the date of this Order are prohibited, unless for any of the following reasons: local county residents effecting COVID-19 self-quarantine or those who have moved from their local residence in order to allow a family member or roommate to self-quarantine; patients and families of patients receiving medical care at local facilities; essential workers including but not limited to doctors, nurses and health staff, military members, truck drivers and supply providers, utility crews; and other persons or categories of people who the County Administrator deems consistent with the intent of this Order, after consultation with the Local Public Health Administrator.
4. As of the date of this Order, operators of temporary lodging facilities which are subject to this Order are prohibited from booking any new reservations for tourist accommodations of less than 30 days, and shall only book reservations needed for: local county residents effecting COVID-19 self-quarantine or those who have moved from their local residence in order to allow a family member or roommate to self-quarantine; patients and families of patients receiving medical care at local facilities; essential workers including but not limited to doctors, nurses and health staff, military members, truck drivers and supply providers, utility crews; and other persons or categories of people who the County Administrator deems consistent with the intent of this Order, after consultation with the Local Public Health Administrator
5. This Order does not apply to reservations and stays longer than 30 days, or stays that do not otherwise qualify as short term rentals, such as occupancy of second homes by owners/family.

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6. This Order is effective immediately, and will remain in effect until May 15, 2020, unless sooner terminated or extended by Board Order.

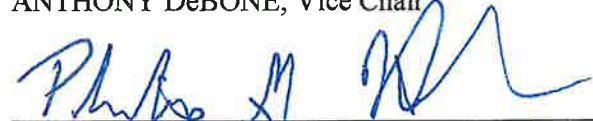
Dated this 1 of April, 2020

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF DESCHUTES COUNTY, OREGON


PATTI ADAIR, Chair


ANTHONY DeBONE, Vice Chair

ATTEST: 
Recording Secretary


PHILIP G. HENDERSON, Commissioner