BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

In the Matter of Adopting a Temporary Policy) Limiting Access to County Facilities In Response to) COVID-19)

Order No. 49-2020

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Board of County Commissioners adopted Resolution No. 25-2020, declaring an emergency for Columbia County to address the spread of COVID-19 and authorizing the Board to take actions and issue orders necessary to protect the public and minimize or mitigate the effect of the emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020, the Board of County Commissioners adopted Order No. 27-2020 "In the Matter of Adopting a Temporary policy to Limit Access to County Facilities in Response to COVID-19"; and

WHEREAS, the State of Oregon and the Federal government have declared emergencies in response to COVID-19, and the World Health Organization has declared the COVID-19 outbreak a global pandemic; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a highly contagious and novel Coronavirus, for which there is no vaccine, and the public, including Columbia County employees, are at risk for contracting the disease; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020, the Office of the Governor issued Executive Order No. 20-12, "Stay Home, Save Lives" which implemented workspace restrictions for State Government buildings, among other requirements applicable to all persons in the State of Oregon; and

WHEREAS, in conformance with Executive Order No. 20-12, on March 25, 2020, the Board of County Commissioners adopted Order No. 31-2020, In the Matter of Adopting a Temporary Policy to Close County Facilities to the Public in Response to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on May 14, 2020, the Office of the Governor issued Executive Order 20-25, "A Safe And Strong Oregon: Maintaining Essential Health Directives In Response To Covid-19, And Implementing A Phased Approach For Reopening Oregon's Economy", authorizing Columbia County businesses and residents to enter into Phase 1 re-reopening consistent with the regulations set forth in the Executive Order; and

WHEREAS, Consistent with the need to re-open services to the public, it is necessary to safely allow public access to County facilities; and

WHEREAS, Columbia County is committed to doing its part to slow the spread of COVID19, and to minimize the risk to the health of its employees and the public they serve, by implementing Executive Order No. 20-25, as well as OHA and CDC guidance;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HEREBY ORDERS, as follows:

- 1. Beginning June 1, 2020, all County buildings which were closed to the public shall reopen to the public for County services by appointment only.
- 2. The Old Courthouse shall remain closed to the public.
- 3. Public Access to the Courthouse Annex shall be limited to a single point of entry. Members of the public shall use the front entrance of the Courthouse Annex, unless otherwise directed.
- 4. Each Department is responsible for tracking its appointments, greeting its scheduled visitor in the front lobby after check-n and escorting its visitor to the meeting location.
- 5. Public services are encouraged to be provided by telephone or on-line, when possible.
- 6. When public services require in-person interactions, social distancing measures must be established, implemented, and enforced to the maximum extent possible.
- 7. The County clerk's office will be open consistent with ORS 205.242 for e-recording only. The Clerk may accept other documents for recording by appointment only in the Clerk's discretion, and may limit appointment hours.
- 8. The Columbia County Transfer Station will remain open without appointment. The Public Works Department is authorized to establish procedures at the Transfer Station to implement social distancing measures that will minimize exposure while keeping the Transfer Station open to the public.
- 9. Effective June 1, 2020, Order No. 31-2020, "In the Matter of Adopting a Temporary Policy to Close County Facilities to the Public in Response to COVID-19" is hereby repealed.
- 10. All County departments with public-facing functions shall establish procedures for setting and managing service by phone, on-line, or by appointment, when necessary.

11. This Order shall be effective on June 1, 2020, and shall remain in effect for the duration of the County's emergency declaration (Resolution NO. 25-2020), and any extension thereof, unless sooner terminated by Board order.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON 1 By: Alex Tardif, Chair By: argaret Magruder, Commissioner By:

Henry Heimuller, Commissioner

Approved as to form

By: **Office of County Counsel**