

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

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

AMENDED ORDER NO. 27-2020

[Amended to be effective March 19, 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, 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, to slow the spread of the virus, which is critical to ensure that medical services are available to the critically ill, Governor Kate Brown has issued orders on social distancing, which includes limiting social gatherings to no more than 25 people, subject to exceptions, while the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommends limiting gatherings to no more than 10 people; and

WHEREAS, the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) further recommends that staying at least three feet, but ideally six feet, from one another is one of the most important ways Oregonians can protect themselves from the disease and slow its spread; and

WHEREAS, Columbia County is committed to doing its part to slow the spread of COVID-19 and to minimize health risk to its employees and the public they serve, and in response to the recommendations of the Governor, OHA and the CDC, the County has developed a Temporary Policy to limit access to County buildings and facilities to allow for social distancing while continuing to serve the public;

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

1. All County facilities will be closed to walk-in traffic and open by appointment only, except for the Columbia County Transfer Station.
2. The following additional restrictions and guidelines shall apply to the Courthouse:

- a. Public access to the Courthouse shall be limited to a single point entry. Members of the public shall use the front entrance of the Courthouse Annex.
 - b. Each Department is responsible for tracking its appointments, greeting its scheduled visitor in the front lobby and escorting its visitor to the meeting location.
3. All County departments with public-facing functions shall establish procedures for setting and managing service by appointment.
 4. The County Clerk's Office will be open by appointment only in accordance with ORS 205.242.
 5. The Public Works Department is authorized to establish procedures at the Columbia County Transfer Station to implement social distancing measures that will minimize exposure while keeping the Transfer Station open to the public.
 6. This Order shall go into effect on Thursday, March 19, 2020, and shall remain in effect for the duration of the County's emergency declaration (Resolution 25-2020), and any extension thereof, unless sooner terminated by Board order.

DATED this 20 day of March, 2020.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR
COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

By: Alex Tardif
Alex Tardif, Chair

By: Margaret Magruder
Margaret Magruder, Commissioner

By: Henry Heimuller
Henry Heimuller, Commissioner

Approved as to form
By: [Signature]
Office of County Counsel