

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

In the Matter of Repealing a Temporary Policy)
Limiting Access to County Facilities In Response to)
COVID-19) Order No. 34-2021

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, 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-opening consistent with the regulations set forth in the Executive Order; and

WHEREAS, Consistent with the need to re-open services on June 1, 2020, the Board of County Commissioners adopted Order No 42-2020 In the Matter of Adopting Temporay Policy Limiting Access to County Buildings, which included closure of the Old Courthouse to the Public; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners subsequently adopted Order No. 84-2020 to provide greater public access to the Courthouse Annex during tax and election seasons; and

WHEREAS, on June 25, 2021, the Office of the Governor issued Executive Order No. 21-15 repealing Executive Order No. 20-66, the successor to the original Executive Orders, "Stay Home, Save Lives and "Safe and Strong Oregon", effective June 30, 2021; and


WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 21-15 repeals health and safety restrictions such as mask and face shield requirements, capacity restrictions and physical distancing requirements for the County;

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

1. All County buildings which were closed to the public shall re-open to the public.
2. Order No. 84-2020, "In the Matter of Adopting a Temporary Policy to Close County Facilities to the Public in Response to COVID-19" is hereby repealed.
3. All County departments with public-facing functions shall continue to implement procedures for setting and managing service by phone, on-line, or by appointment, when necessary.
4. CC Rider and the Columbia County Jail shall continue to comply with all Federal and State guidance related to public transportation and congregate care facilities.

Dated this 30 day of June, 2021.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

By: 
Margaret Magruder, Chair

By: 
Casey Garrett, Commissioner

By: 
Henry Heimuller, Commissioner

Approved as to form

By: 
Office of County Counsel