

BLAINE COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. 2021-08A

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BLAINE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPEALING BLAINE COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. 2020-05

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death, is caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which is a new strain of coronavirus that had not been previously identified in humans and can easily spread from person to person. The virus is spread between individuals who are in close contact with each other through respiratory droplets; and

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, the International Health Regulations Emergency Committee of the World Health Organization declared the outbreak of COVID-19 a public health emergency of international concern; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Idaho Governor Brad Little signed a declaration of emergency for the State of Idaho in response to concerns that cases of COVID-19 are imminent in Idaho; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the Board of County Commissioners enacted Resolution No. 2020-12, declaring a disaster in Blaine County due to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, those disaster declarations were followed by several emergency state orders and Blaine County ordinances that curtailed travel, businesses, trades, and activities in order to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus in Blaine County; and

WHEREAS, on July 8, 2020, the Board of County Commissioners enacted Ordinance No. 2020-03, requiring that persons wear face coverings subject to certain exceptions; and

WHEREAS, prior to the passage of Ordinance 2020-03, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) had recommended that people wear face coverings in public, especially when other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain; and

WHEREAS, on October 22, 2020, the Board of County Commissioners enacted Ordinance No. 2020-05, which repealed Ordinance 2020-03, and required that persons in Blaine County wear face coverings subject to certain exceptions, limited indoor and outdoor group sizes, and required social distancing; and

WHEREAS, the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare (IDHW) is currently implementing its Stage 4 Stay Healthy Guidelines, which make various recommendations concerning vaccinations, group gatherings, face coverings, social distancing and sanitation requirements for individuals and businesses; and

WHEREAS, wearing face coverings has been an effective, inexpensive, and simple method of lessening community spread of the COVID-19 virus; and

WHEREAS, the development and approval of COVID-19 vaccines has resulted in the vaccination of a significant number of Blaine County citizens; and

WHEREAS, these vaccination efforts, which are ongoing, have slowed COVID-19 infection rates in Blaine County and throughout the State of Idaho; and

WHEREAS, the CDC has recommended that vaccinated persons no longer need to wear masks to prevent the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, since the CDC issued its mask recommendation, the cities of Hailey, Sun Valley, and Ketchum, by close votes, have repealed orders requiring the wearing of masks, limiting group sizes, and requiring social distancing in their jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, it is important to maintain consistency and uniformity in the laws that apply within Blaine County's jurisdictional boundaries to avoid confusion and unfairness to individuals and businesses; and

WHEREAS, the primary reach of laws intended to reduce the spread of COVID-19 is in the Cities, where most businesses, schools, and public facilities are located; and

WHEREAS, vaccinating citizens and protecting the public health, safety, and welfare of Blaine County citizens and visitors continues to remain the Board's highest priority.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BLAINE COUNTY IDAHO:

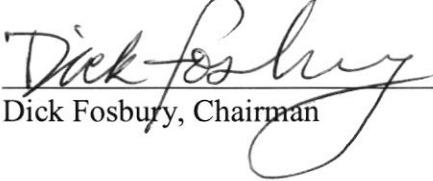
Section 1. REPEAL

Ordinance No. 2020-05 is hereby repealed, and such repeal shall become effective upon being posted in five (5) public places in accordance with Idaho Code Section 31-715.

If medically possible, persons who have not been vaccinated are strongly encouraged to schedule vaccination appointments and become vaccinated as soon as possible. Individuals and businesses are strongly encouraged to follow the CDC recommendations regarding face coverings as well as IDHW's Stage 4 Stay Healthy Guidelines.

Regularly passed, approved and adopted by the Blaine County Board of County Commissioners on this _____ day of May, 2021

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
BLAINE COUNTY, IDAHO

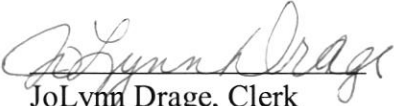


Dick Fosbury, Chairman

(seal)

ATTEST:

Angenie McCleary, Vice-Chair



JoLynn Drage, Clerk



Jacob Greenberg, Commissioner

