

FIRST AMENDED FACE COVERING ADVISORY

AN ADVISORY OF THE HEALTH OFFICER FOR LA PLATA AND ARCHULETA COUNTIES

RECITALS:

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the worldwide outbreak of COVID-19 a “public health emergency of international concern” and on March 11, 2020 declared it a global pandemic. On January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services declared the virus a public health emergency and on March 13, 2020 the President of the United States issued a Proclamation that the “COVID-19 outbreak constitutes a national emergency”. In Colorado, Governor Polis issued an Executive Order declaring a state of disaster emergency due to the presence of COVID-19 in Colorado on March 10, 2020, and on April 6, 2020 issued Executive Order D 2020 024 Amending and Extending Executive Order 2020 017 Ordering Coloradans to Stay at Home Due to the Presence of COVID-19 and on April 26, 2020 issued Executive Order D 2020 044 continuing stay at home requirements for vulnerable individuals and permitting the limited reopening of postsecondary institutions and certain business operations (Safer at Home); and

WHEREAS, under Colorado Revised Statutes (C.R.S.) §25-1-506 and §25-1-508, the local Public Health Director has the duty to: 1) investigate and control the causes of epidemic or communicable diseases and condition affecting public health; and 2) establish, maintain, and enforce isolation and quarantine, and in pursuit thereof, 3) exercise physical control over property and over the persons of the people within the Health District as the local Public Health Director may find necessary for the protection of the public health; and

WHEREAS, the virus that causes COVID-19 is a respiratory disease and can easily be spread through person-to-person contact and the risk of transmission is higher when people are in close proximity; and

WHEREAS, as of May 5, 2020, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) has confirmed 17,830 cases of COVID-19 and 921 deaths within the State of Colorado and 63 and 8 cases in La Plata County and Archuleta County respectively there is the need to minimize where we can the risk of COVID-19 spread; and

WHEREAS, in the absence of immunization or specific treatment, the Health Officer has determined that staying home as much as possible, practicing social, distancing, washing your hands often AND wearing a Face Covering in a Public Place are the best tools currently available to slow the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, there is clear evidence that some individuals who contract COVID-19 have no symptoms or have mild symptoms, which means they are likely unaware they carry the virus. Given that even people without symptoms can transmit the disease, and because evidence shows the disease is easily spread by release of infectious particles into the air when someone speaks, coughs, or sneezes, wearing a Face Covering while in a Public Place is strongly advised to help mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus; and

WHEREAS, the Health Officer applauds those businesses who take steps to protect their employees from COVID-19 by requiring their patrons to wear Face Coverings; and

WHEREAS, “Face Covering” means a device that creates a physical barrier between the mouth and nose of the wearer and potential contaminants in the immediate environment; and

WHEREAS, “Public Place” means any and all places of public accommodation, shopping, grocery business, retail food establishment, streets, sidewalks, boulevards, alleys, or other public ways and any and all public parks, squares, spaces, grounds, and buildings.

WHEREAS, this **FACE COVERING ADVISORY** may be amended as additional State Orders are issued.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Health Officer for San Juan Basin Public Health hereby reaffirms that there is a local public health disaster emergency within the Health District, that immediate and drastic measures are necessary to mitigate the imminent threat of widespread or severe damage, injury or loss of life or property resulting from the COVID-19 virus.
2. San Juan Basin Public Health, as a political subdivision of the State of Colorado, charged with protecting public health within the Health District, endorses the Public Health and Executive Orders listed above and urges other political subdivisions within the Health District to take immediate action to comply with the Orders.
3. The effect of this Advisory, as supplement to and abiding by all Executive Orders and Public Health Orders previously issued and adopted, shall be to urge everyone over the age of two to do their part to slow the spread of COVID-19 and to wear a Face Covering to while in a Public Place regardless of whether they have fever or symptoms of COVID-19.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Advisory shall be effective upon the date and time given below and shall remain in effect until it is no longer necessary as deemed by the Health Officer.

SAN JUAN BASIN PUBLIC HEALTH

Date/Time: May 7, 2020, 4:00 p.m.

By: 

Liane Jollon, Executive Director and Health Officer

Attest:



Sherri Dugdale, Clerk to the Board