BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
HOOD RIVER COUNTY, OREGON

IN THE MATTER OF: )
CLOSURES TO PROTECT THE CITIZENS ) ORDER NO. 20-001
OF HOOD RIVER COUNTY AND LIMIT )
COMMUNITY SPREAD OF )
CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) )

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020 the Hood River County Board of Commissioners
(Board) adopted Resolution No. 2323 declaring a Local State of Emergency as a result of the
COVID-19 pandemic, activating certain emergency powers authorized by ORS 401.309 and the
County’s Emergency Operations Plan; and

WHEREAS, all County buildings and forest recreational staging areas and their restroom
facilities are closed to the public, including Post Flats, Family Man, Binns Hill, and Pinemont
Drive staging areas; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020 the Governor issued Executive Order (EO-20-12)
directing Oregonians to Stay Home, Save Lives, restricting non-essential travel and prohibiting
all non-essential social and recreational gatherings of individuals where a minimum 6-foot
distance between all individuals could not be maintained as a primary means of reducing the
spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Governor’s Executive Order was explicit that, while outdoor activities
and exercise were permissible, a minimum 6-foot distance between all individuals must be
maintained; otherwise, failure to comply constituted an imminent threat and immediate danger to
public health because of the contagiousness and virulence of the Novel Coronavirus and
mortality of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the implementation of the Governor’s Executive Order and closures of
County forest recreational staging areas has not proven effective in Hood River County as
visitors have continued to come to the County to hike, bike, gather and recreate. Repeated
instances of violation of the social distancing norms have placed County resources and residents
at much greater risk of the spread of COVID-19, thereby creating an imminent threat and
immediate danger to public health; and

WHEREAS, the continued influx of visitors, turning over on a short-term basis,
increases the likelihood of the spread of COVID-19 more than longer term tenancies and
threatens the limited health care resources available in Hood River County; and
WHEREAS, on March 25th, 2020, the Mayor of the City of Hood River issued a Declaration directing the City Manager to close Public Parks, Recreation Sites, Transient Lodging Facilities and Campgrounds to Prevent Aggregation of People and Reduce the Spread of the Novel Coronavirus; and

WHEREAS, consistent with the City of Hood River, and pursuant to the authority granted the Hood River County Board of Commissioners under ORS Chapter 401, ORS Chapter 431 as the Local Public Health Authority, Resolution No. 2323 and the Hood River County Emergency Operations Plan, the Board of Commissioners deems it necessary to protect the health and safety of its citizens to institute a temporary order closing all County parks and forests, transient lodging, including RV parks and public and private campgrounds, hotels, motels, and short-term rentals and homestay lodging.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AS FOLLOWS:

1. All County parks, forests, forest recreational staging areas, facilities and trails are closed to the public for recreational use.

2. All transient lodging facilities, including motels, hotels, short-term vacation rentals, hosted home shares, bed and breakfasts, RV parks, and campgrounds are closed to the public. All camping on private property is prohibited, except for those approved by the Hood River County Health Department. Transient lodging facilities may remain open to serve only the following designated individuals:
   a. Current registered guests for a term of longer than 30 consecutive days.
   b. County residents effecting a COVID-19 self-quarantine or who have moved from their local residence in order to allow a family member or roommate to self-quarantine in their local residence.
   c. Families or individuals residing in lodging for less than 30 days if this is their only means of shelter. Includes, but is not limited to, vouchers for stay provided by local or regional governments or nonprofit agencies.
   d. Employees of the facility provided lodging as a requirement or benefit of their employment.
   e. Patients or families of patients receiving medical care at local facilities.
   f. Essential personnel as defined by federal or state law, where lodging within Hood River County is necessary for work involving the safety of human life or the protection of property or performing other work consistent with the intent of this provision, e.g. emergency and public safety responders, truck drivers and supply providers, and construction industry workers.
   g. Other individuals as authorized by the Hood River County Health Department.
3. The County Administrator shall communicate and coordinate with the owners, operators and users of transient lodging facilities affected by this Order, which shall take all reasonable steps to terminate current occupancy of any guests not exempted herein by no later than 5:00 PM on Friday, April 3, 2020. No new occupancies in violation of this Order may be rented effective 8:00 am Saturday, April 4, 2020.

4. The County Administrator is authorized and directed to take all necessary steps authorized by law to otherwise effectuate the closures directed by this Order.

5. A violation of this Order or the County’s March 17, 2020 Emergency Declaration shall be a Class C misdemeanor pursuant to ORS 401.990 and a civil infraction enforceable under the County’s Enforcement Code (Chapter 1.08). This Order is a public health law, as defined in ORS 431A.005 and may be enforced as permitted by ORS 431A.010.

6. This Order shall take effect immediately and shall have the full force and effect of law during the declared state of emergency. All existing laws, ordinances, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Order shall be inoperative during this period of time and to the extent that such inconsistencies exist.

DATED this 2nd day of April, 2020.

HOOD RIVER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Mike Oates, Chair
Karen Joplin, Commissioner
Rich McBride, Commissioner
Robert Benton, Commissioner
Les Perkins, Commissioner