

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF LANE COUNTY, OREGON

ORDER NO: 21-08-31-01

IN THE MATTER OF EXTENDING THE  
DECLARATION OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY  
AS A RESULT OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
RESPONSE TO COVID-19.

**WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization has declared COVID-19 a global pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, the President of the United States has declared COVID-19 to be a national emergency;  
and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor of Oregon has declared COVID-19 a statewide public health emergency;  
and

**WHEREAS**, the Lane County Board of Commissioners has declared COVID-19 a Lane County public health emergency on March 17, 2020 with Board Order 20-03-17-06; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Center for Disease Control has issued guidelines related to COVID-19 which state that if individuals are in high-risk categories, they should follow recommended hygiene protocols, stay at home when ill, and follow social distancing practices whenever possible; and

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 poses a health risk to Lane County residents, visitors and first responders which could extend for several months with historically high case counts; and

**WHEREAS**, the Delta variant of COVID-19 has arrived in Lane County and is responsible for record levels of new daily reported cases and total number of individuals being tracked by Lane County Public Health as currently infectious; and

**WHEREAS**, Lane County exceeds the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Infection (CDC) criteria for “high transmission” for COVID-19 and thus all individuals regardless of vaccination status are being advised to continue with masking and social distancing by federal, state, and local public health officials; and

**WHEREAS**, individuals 11 years of age and younger remain ineligible for all COVID-19 vaccines as stipulated by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Emergency Use Agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, local medical supply resources and hospital bed availability may be insufficient to respond to the situation as it evolves; with continued spikes and rise in positive COVID19 cases in Lane County and neighboring Counties; and

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 response and recovery requires the immediate and significant expenditures of resources at the local level for response in order to keep the public informed and safe. Resources related to contact tracing, disease investigation, community information and public safety are expected to be exhausted; and

**WHEREAS**, FEMA reimbursement for approved COVID-19 expenses incurred by Lane County will continue through at least December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021 and potentially longer; and

**WHEREAS**, ORS 401.305 provides authority for Lane County to act as an emergency management agency and includes authority to establish policies and protocols for defining and directing responsibilities during time of emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, Lane County has enacted a local ordinance (County Code Chapter 20.015) pursuant to the authority granted by ORS Chapter 401, that provides for executive responsibility in times of emergency and specifically delegates authority to declare a state of emergency to the County Chair, Vice-Chair (if Chair is unavailable), Remaining Board Member(s) (if Vice Chair is unavailable) and County Administrator or designee (if Remaining Board Member(s) is unavailable); and

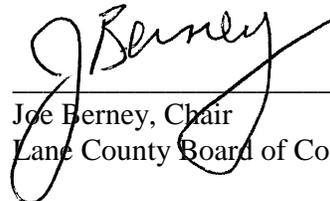
**WHEREAS**, Lane County Code Chapter 20 and ORS 401.309 further authorize certain actions be taken during a state of emergency when necessary for public safety or for the efficient conduct of activities to minimize or mitigate the effects of the emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, the continued state of emergency remains of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant an extension of the Local Emergency Declaration.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Board of County Commissioners of Lane County **ORDERS** as follows:

1. That a local emergency declared by the Board of Commissioners on March 17, 2020 in Board Order 20-03-17-06, and was extended 60 days on 20-05-12-08, on 20-07-07-14, and on 20-09-01-03 , and 20-12-30-01, 21-02-09-08 and will continue to exist as defined in Lane Code Chapter 20 throughout all of Lane County; and
2. The County Administrator remains authorized under Lane Code Chapter 20 and Board Order 20-03-31-09 to spend up to \$5,000,000 over current budget appropriations in responding to the effects of the COVID-19; and,
3. The County Administrator is authorized to respond to any requests for authority that require attestation or approval by the Board of Commissioners, to respond to issues regarding this emergency. The County Administrator shall report any actions taken pursuant to this authority at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Commissioners.
4. This extension of the Declaration of Local Emergency shall remain in effect until December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021, unless extended or terminated earlier by the Board.

**ADOPTED** this 31<sup>st</sup> day of August, 2021.

  
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Joe Berney, Chair  
Lane County Board of Commissioners