

ORDER OF HEALTH OFFICER

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization has declared the worldwide outbreak of COVID-19 Novel Coronavirus a pandemic;

WHEREAS, most states in the United States are experiencing confirmed cases of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) recognizes COVID-19 as a threat to the residents of Montana;

WHEREAS, there are confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the State of Montana and in Hill County;

WHEREAS, the Hill County Health Department has activated response plans and protocols to prepare for cases of COVID-19 in Hill County;

WHEREAS, the Hill County Health Department has also worked to identify, contact, and recommend testing to individuals in Hill County who have been potentially exposed to COVID-19 in coordination with the State of Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services and the CDC;

WHEREAS, proactively implementing mitigation measures to slow the spread of the virus is in the best interests of Hill County and its people;

WHEREAS, COVID-19, a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death and is a new strain of Coronavirus that had not been previously identified in humans and can easily spread from person-to-person;

WHEREAS, the CDC identifies the potential public health threat posed by COVID-19 both globally and in the United States as "high" and has advised that person-to-person spread of the COVID-19 will continue to occur globally, including within the United States, and Montana;

WHEREAS, the circumstances of this outbreak may exceed the capacity of the services, personnel, equipment, supplies and facilities of Hill County;

WHEREAS, based upon all of the above, the Governor of the State of Montana, has issued a directive implementing Executive Orders 2-2020 and 3-2020 providing measure to stay at home and designating certain essential functions;

WHEREAS Local public health agencies, including the Hill County Health Board, are directed to assist in the administration of the March 26, 2020 directive and can add additional restrictions;

WHEREAS, the Hill County Board of Health has the duty to protect the public from the introduction and spread of communicable disease or other conditions of public health importance, including through actions to ensure the removal of filth or other contaminants that might cause disease or adversely affect public health;

WHEREAS, the Hill County Board of Health has determined that the potential spread of COVID-19 constitutes a public health emergency and actions must be taken to avert and minimize the outbreak of this communicable disease and;

WHEREAS, the Hill County Board of Health has determined in order to enforce the intent of the directive implementing Executive Orders 2-2020 and 3-2020 providing measure to stay at home and designating certain essential functions, which includes ensuring the maximum number of people self-isolate in their places of residence to the maximum extent feasible;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 50-2-118 of the Montana Code Annotated, a local health officer in carrying out the purpose of the public health system shall take steps to limit contact between people in order to protect the public health from imminent threats, including but not limited to ordering the closure of buildings or facilities where people congregate and cancelling events;

WHEREAS, the Hill County Board of Health has determined that the local health officer should institute her authority to close buildings and facilities to prevent the spread of COVID-19 within Hill County, Montana.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that the March 26, 2020 Directive Implementing Executive Orders 2-2020 and 3-2020 providing measure to stay at home and designating

certain essential functions is a Public Health Order of Hill County.

IT IS FURTHER HEREBY ORDERED that pursuant to Title 50, Chapter 2, Part 1, and specifically Section 50-2-118 of the Montana Code Annotated, the following restrictions are in addition to those listed within the March 26, 2020 Directive:

All business identified as "Essential Businesses and Operations" in Section 11 of the March 26, 2020 Directive that remain open for the transaction of business shall operate by appointment only. ALL public egress and ingress shall be restricted, and access shall be limited to authorized employees and to members of the public with an appointment. No member of the public shall be permitted to enter an Essential Business and Operation without an appointment except as follows in this Order.

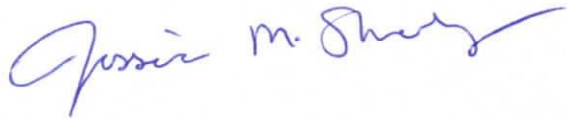
The following Essential Businesses and Operations are granted an exception to the public access by appointment only restriction:

- Stores that sell groceries and medicines;
- Convenience stores with attached gas stations;
- Pharmacies;
- Hardware and supply stores;
- Food and beverage production and agriculture;
- Restaurants and other facilities providing consumption off-premises;
- Mail, post, shipping, logistics, delivery, and pickup services;
- Organizations that provide charitable and social services;
- Hotels and motels; and
- Residential facilities and shelters

All Essential Businesses and Operations shall comply with the Social Distancing Requirements pursuant to the Governor's Order dated March 26, 2020, providing measures to stay at home and designating certain essential functions.

This Order does not restrict public access to Health Care and Public Health Operations; Human Services Operations; Essential Infrastructure, or Governmental Functions.

This Order is effective at 12:01 a.m. Saturday, April 4, 2020 and will expire at 11:59 p.m. on April 10, 2020 or until further action of the Hill County Board of Health.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jessica M. Sheehy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end of the name.

Jessica Sheehy PA-C
HEALTH OFFICER FOR HILL COUNTY, MONTANA