ORDER OF DAWSON COUNTY
BOARD OF HEALTH

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

WHEREAS, as of April 24, 2020, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) indicates there are over 828,441 cases and 46,379 deaths in the United States;

WHEREAS, all 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, the Dawson County Unified Health Command has activated response plans and protocols to prepare for cases of COVID-19 in Dawson County;

WHEREAS, the Dawson County Unified Health Command has also worked to identify, contact, and test individuals in Dawson 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 and containment measures to slow the spread of the virus is in the best interests of Dawson 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, Montana, and Dawson County;

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

WHEREAS, based upon all of the above, on April 22, 2020, Governor Bullock issued a Directive Implementing Executive Orders 2-2020 and 3-2020 providing guidance for the phased reopening of Montana and establishing conditions for Phase One.
WHEREAS, the County of Dawson's 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, Dawson County's Health Officer has determined that the potential spread of COVID-19 constitutes a public health emergency and actions must be taken to alleviate and minimize the outbreak of this communicable disease;

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; and,

WHEREAS, the local health officer should institute his authority to close buildings and facilities to prevent the spread of COVID-19 within the County of Dawson, Montana.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 50-1-204 of the Montana Code Annotated, the department of health and human services may adopt and enforce quarantine or isolation measures to prevent the spread of communicable disease.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 50-2-120 of the Montana Code Annotated, local health officer may request a sheriff, constable, or other peace officer to assist the health officer in carrying out the provisions of this chapter.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, pursuant to Title 50, Chapter 2, Part 1, and specifically Section 50-2-118 of the Montana Code Annotated: §§ 50-1-103, -202, -203, and -204 MCA; Executive Orders 2-2020 and 3-2020 for Phase One and all other applicable provisions of state and federal law.

Effective at 12:01 a.m. on April 25, 2020, through May 31, 2020:

- The Dawson Health Board has ordered that all County and City parks shall remain open as long as individuals utilizing the parks adhere to social distancing practices. The County and City playgrounds, tennis courts, basketball courts, skate parks, and picnic areas are closed to any use through May 31, 2020.

- No group activities (i.e. sporting events, camps or social gatherings).

- The local health officer requests the Sheriff’s Office and Glendive Police Department assist the health officer in carrying out the provisions of this Order.

- The Dawson County Health Board mirrors Executive Orders 2-2020 and 3-2020 providing guidance for the phased reopening of Montana and establishing conditions for Phase One through May 31, 2020.
Dr. Joseph Leal, Dawson County Health Officer

Date

4/12/12