

**BEAR RIVER HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

**PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER 2020-02**

**AMENDING SECTION 1A OF PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER 2020-01**

**SURGICAL CENTERS**

*COVID-19 PANDEMIC WITHIN BOX ELDER, CACHE, AND RICH COUNTIES*

March 31, 2020

On March 28, 2020, the Bear River Health Officer issued Public Health Order 2020-01 emphasizing the need to preserve valuable and scarce medical resources, including Personal Protective Equipment (PPE's) during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Bear River Health Department is continuously monitoring the COVID-19 virus and working collaboratively with federal, state and local officials, medical experts, and epidemiologists and is taking a measured approach to protect residents and visitors.

The Bear River Health Officer finds that there is a continuing threat to the public health of Box Elder, Cache, and Rich county residents and visitors from COVID-19.

After further consideration of additional information regarding PPE's and the type of acute surgeries that may need to be performed in local surgical centers within the Bear River Health District (Box Elder, Cache, and Rich Counties), the following amendment is made to Section 1A of Public Health Order 2020-01 regarding surgical centers: Giving clarification for the operation of surgical centers.

**Section 1A. Additional Prohibitions. Effective at 12:01 a.m. (MDT) on March 30, 2020:**

- **Additional Public Gathering Places.** All museums, gyms, exercise studios, spas, fitness centers, health clubs, indoor recreational facilities, and all entertainment venues, including without limitation music performance venues, live stage performances, and lectures, shall be closed to members, guests, patrons, and the general public.
- **Surgical Centers.** ~~Surgical centers not located within a hospital are not considered necessary services, as referenced in Section 1 above, and shall be closed. This closure is made in order to preserve valuable and scarce Personal Protective Equipment (PPE's) and other resources that may be needed to administer medical care during the COVID-19 pandemic. The closure of surgical centers is also consistent with the directives and orders of the President of the United States and the directive from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) that all elective surgeries, non-essential medical,~~

surgical, and dental procedures be delayed during the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

- **Surgical Centers.** Surgical Centers will follow the CMS Guidance for limiting all non-essential planned surgeries and procedures, including dental. All decisions shall incorporate the critical need to preserve Personal Protective Equipment.
  - Tier 1a and Tier 1b surgeries should be postponed.
  - Tier 2a surgeries - Intermediate acuity surgery/healthy patient procedures should be postponed if possible. These cases will be reviewed by surgeons within each facility for appropriateness and urgency considering morbidity and mortality or requiring the need for an in-hospital stay.
  - Tier 2b - Intermediate acuity/unhealthy patient surgeries should be postpone if possible.
  - Tier 3a and Tier 3b surgeries should be performed in hospitals and not be postponed.
  - The tiered framework that CMS provides includes the following definition of **emergent or urgent** as attention to save a life, preserve organ function, and avoid further harm from underlying condition or disease.

**Effective Date:** The effective date of Public Health Order, 2020-02, with its amended language, will be 12:01 a.m. on March 31, 2020 and will remain in effect until April 13, 2020. The Bear River Health Department Health Officer shall re-evaluate this Order at the conclusion of the Effective Date and may extend or modify the Order as needed.

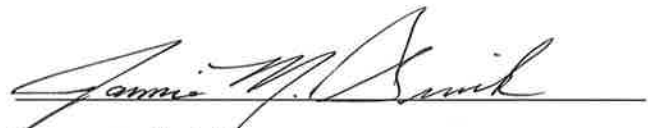
By Order of the Bear River Health Department Health Officer



Lloyd C. Berentzen

Health Officer

Approved as to Form:



James M. Swink

Cache County Attorney