



# Grand County

## EXECUTIVE ORDER

### *Extending a State of Local Emergency Due to Infectious Disease COVID-19 Novel Coronavirus*

**WHEREAS**, on January 21, 2020, the Utah Department of Health activated its Department Operations Center in response to the evolving global outbreak of novel coronavirus;

**WHEREAS**, the Utah Department of Health recognizes COVID-19 as a threat to the health and safety of the residents of Utah;

**WHEREAS**, the Utah Department of Health, local health departments, and health and medical partners have activated response plans and protocols to prepare for the likely arrival of the virus in Utah;

**WHEREAS**, these partners have also worked to identify, contact, and test individuals in the State of Utah who have been potentially exposed to COVID-19 in coordination with the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC);

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

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19, a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death, is caused by the SARS-Co V-2 virus, which is a new strain of coronavirus that had not been previously identified in humans and is easily transmissible 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 transmission of COVID-19 will continue to occur globally, including within the United States;

**WHEREAS**, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar declared a public health emergency for COVID-19, beginning on January 27, 2020;

**WHEREAS**, on February 28, 2020, the State Emergency Operations Center raised its activation level to Level 3 - Elevated Action and the Utah Division of Emergency

Management and Department of Health activated a Joint Information System for public information;

**WHEREAS**, on March 6, 2020, Governor Gary Herbert issued a The Declaration of State Emergency for the state of Utah;

**WHEREAS**, on March 10, 2020, Grand County’s chief executive officer declared a State of Local Emergency due to COVID-19 under the Utah Disaster Response and Recovery Act;

**WHEREAS**, on March 16, 2020, Utah Governor Gary Herbert established a “Utah Leads Together Plan,” which Plan outlines an “urgent” planning phase beginning March 16 and continuing for 8-12 weeks;

**WHEREAS**, on March 16, 2020, the Southeastern Utah Health Department (SEUHD) enacted a comprehensive Public Health Order suspending or curtailing a variety of business activities within Carbon, Emery, and Grand Counties to combat the spread of COVID-19, which Order was amended on March 31, 2020;

**WHEREAS**, on March 21, 2020, the Utah Supreme Court signed its Administrative Pandemic Order closing all Utah courts to in-person appearances until June 1, 2020, and has since been extended to the present time;

**WHEREAS**, on October 2, 2020, SEUHD confirmed two hundred and fourty three (243) positive cases of COVID-19 in within its boundaries, including 10 hospitalizations and one death;

**WHEREAS**, as of October 2, 2020, CDC data indicates there are 74,050 confirmed cases of COVID-19, and 459 related deaths in the State of Utah;

**WHEREAS**, the Utah Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management, State Emergency Operations Center, is coordinating resources across state government to support the Utah Department of Health and local officials in alleviating the impacts to people, property, and infrastructure, and is assessing the magnitude and long-term effects of the incident with the Utah Department of Health;

**WHEREAS**, the State of Utah has implemented the Utah COVID-19 Community Task Force to coordinate the response to the incident throughout the entire state and among all levels of government;

**WHEREAS**, Moab Regional Hospital has limited resources to treat severe or serious cases in the event of sustained community transmission of COVID-19 in Moab, Utah;

**WHEREAS**, Moab Regional Hospital and the Canyonlands Care Center, Moab’s only senior care facility, are located within the same facility, thereby increasing risk of illness or death for Grand County’s most vulnerable population;

**WHEREAS**, more than three (3) million visitors, national and international, travel to Grand County each year, increasing the risk of a local COVID-19 outbreak;

**WHEREAS**, the circumstances of a local COVID-19 outbreak may exceed the capacity of the services, personnel, equipment, supplies and facilities of Grand County, and require the combined forces of a mutual aid region or regions to combat; and

**WHEREAS**, Governor Gary Herbert has designated Grand County as being at “Moderate Risk” as defined by the “Utah Leads Together Plan”, which requires extreme caution and significant mitigation measures; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 7, 2020 Grand County signed a Joint Amended Public Health Order with the Southeastern Utah Health Department lasting through August 20, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, on August 18, 2020 Grand County extended the Joint Amended Public Health Order with the Southeastern Utah Health Department lasting through December 31, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, these conditions do create a continuing “Local State of Emergency” within the intent of the Disaster Response and Recovery Act found in Title 53, Chapter 2a of the Utah Code Annotated 1953, as amended;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Grand County Commission, and its Chief Executive Officer, Mary Mullen McGann, hereby renew Grand County’s “Local State of Emergency” for an additional 85 days, which renewal shall be reviewed on December 30, 2020;

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, we have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Seal of Grand County, Utah on this the 6th day of October, 2020 in the City of Moab, Utah.



Mary Mullen McGann  
Chief Executive Officer and  
Chair, Grand County Commission

ATTEST:



Quinn Hall  
Grand County Clerk-Auditor