

Moscow City Council



Regular Meeting ~Minutes~

www.ci.moscow.id.us

Laurie M. Hopkins
City Clerk

208.883.7015

**Monday
September 21, 2020**

7:00 PM

**Council Chambers
206 E. Third St.**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor Bill Lambert, Art Bettge, Sandra Kelly, Maureen Laflin (virtual), Brandy Sullivan, Gina Taruscio, Anne Zabala (virtual)

STAFF: Gary J. Riedner, Mia Bautista (virtual), Bill Belknap (virtual), Dwight Curtis (virtual), Karen Johnson (virtual), Tyler Palmer (virtual), Laurie M. Hopkins (virtual)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council President Sullivan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PROCLAMATION - FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

CONSENT AGENDA

1. All Consent Items (ACTION ITEM)

A. Approval of Moscow City Council September 8, 2020 Minutes - Laurie M. Hopkins

Minutes provided for approval.

ACTION: Approve minutes as presented.

B. Disbursement Report August 2020 - Sarah Banks

Staff presented the August, 2020 Accounts Payable Report to Public Works/Finance Committee on September 14, 2020. The Committee received the report and approved the disbursements as presented.

ACTION: Receive the Disbursements Report.

Bettge moved, Taruscio seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

REGULAR AGENDA

2. Staff Recognition Report - Gary J. Riedner

No report offered.

3. Mayors Appointments (ACTION ITEM)

Mayor Lambert presented two proposed appointments for Council consideration: Jassen Bluto to Sustainable Environment Commission and Alexandria Tong to Historic Preservation Commission. Bettge moved approval of the appointments. Seconded by Kelly. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

4. Public Comment and Mayor's Response Period (limit 15 minutes)

Mayor Lambert postponed public comment.

5. PUBLIC HEARING: Proposed Fee Amendments (ACTION ITEM) - Gary J. Riedner

Following the adoption of the FY2021 Fee Resolution, additional amendments and clarifications were necessary related to food vendor, sidewalk café and alcohol licensing. Additionally, the Council recently provided direction to implement a graduated fee increase for downtown parking permit fees. Staff has prepared a draft amended Fee Resolution for the Council's review and consideration.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Conduct the public hearing and after considering testimony, approve the amended FY2021 Fee Resolution with or without changes; or take such other action deemed appropriate.

Riedner introduced the item as written above and detailed the change in business license inspection fees and downtown parking permit fees.

Mayor Lambert opened the public hearing at 7:09 p.m. Hearing no testimony the hearing was closed at 7:10 p.m.

There is no predetermination as to what the fee will be after three years and Council will review annually. The consensus of the PWF Committee on August 24 directed staff to bring an increase proposal forward to public hearing.

Sullivan moved and Bettge seconded to approve the amended FY2021 Fee Resolution. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Five. Nays: One (Taruscio). Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

6. Proposed Pool Employee Stipend and Lifeguard Re/Certification Reimbursement for 2020 Pool Season (ACTION ITEM) - Dwight Curtis

During the 2020 season, many of the Hamilton-Lowe Aquatics Center (HLAC) employees waited throughout a considerable portion of the summer for a possible pool opening only to find out the pool would only be partially opening due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The window to obtain a summer job for many had passed while they were waiting for the decision on the opening of the pool. Employees who were able to continue with the pool faced drastically reduced work hours because of the limited opening.

In order to address this situation, Staff is recommending that employees who had been hired for the 2020 pool season be provided a small stipend as a good faith gesture to many of our community's young people who counted on employment at the HLAC during the 2020 pool season. Many of these employees will be recruited to fill HLAC positions next pool seasons year and even seasons to come. This gesture will convey that the City, the Parks and Recreation Department, and the Moscow community, and appreciates the efforts of these young people to prepare for the season and will help address the negative financial effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

This item was reviewed by the Public Works Finance Committee on September 14, 2020 and recommended for approval.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Authorize a \$150 stipend for each of the 69 pool employees for the 2020

pool season, as well as reimbursement for lifeguard certification up to \$164.50 (varies by employee), or take such other action deemed appropriate.

Curtis introduced the item as written above and said the original total has been updated in the Council packet. Riedner added this may be CARES Act eligible and staff is still researching. If it is not eligible, there are revenues in P&R fund that could cover the total.

Victoria Seever (Moscow), feels this is a good faith action and shows respect to the employees and is the right thing to do.

Taruscio moved to authorize a \$150 stipend for each of the 69 pool employees for the 2020 pool season, as well as reimbursement for lifeguard certification up to \$164.50 (varies by employee). Seconded by Zabala. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

7. Resolution to Extend Amended Public Health Emergency Order 20-03 (ACTION ITEM) - Gary J. Riedner

On July 6, 2020, the City Council approved Resolution 2020-12, accepting and extending Mayor Lambert's Amended Public Health Emergency Order 20-03, requiring face coverings (masks) when in a public setting and the 6-foot physical distancing cannot be maintained and maintain a 6-foot social/physical distancing from non-household members when in public settings within the City of Moscow. On August 3, 2020, the City Council approved Resolution 2020-17 authorizing the continued acceptance and extension of the Mayor's Amended Public Health Emergency Order 20-03. Resolution 2020-17 expires at 11:59 p.m. on October 6, 2020. The attached Resolution extends Emergency Order 20-03 until January 5, 2021.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Adopt the Resolution extending Amended Public Health Emergency Order 20-03 until January 5, 2021, or take such other action deemed appropriate.

Riedner described the item as written above. Staff reviewed the CDC, White House, State of Idaho, Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, and Gritman Medical Center websites to see what their recommendations were. Feedback from U of I, Gritman Medical Center, Latah County Commissioners, North Central Health District and Moscow School District. By bringing the resolution mid-September, it allows other entities adequate notice. The terms of the ordinance for emergency orders has limitations which includes a date certain for expiration.

Mayor Lambert said a number of emails were received both in support and against the extension of the resolution. He also clarified private versus public venues. Mayor Lambert read a letter received from Carol Moerhle, North Central Health District Director, supporting and requesting continuation of the mask mandate resolution to the end of the year. Mayor Lambert invited public comment.

Victoria Seever (Moscow) supports masks to keep the numbers down.

Kelly Zakariasen (Moscow) said masks create a divide and should be left to the individual.

Darin Mitchem (Moscow) does not support extension of masks as it is wreaks havoc on his high school students mental health and physical health. mandate pushes authority into ;restore our freedoms;

Tom Stephenson (Moscow) is concerned the next step is mandate of a vaccine.

Judy Buessing (Viola) doesn't feel the City Council should overstep when there are zero deaths.

Joel Cohen (Moscow) is concerned of future regulation and infringement of first amendment rights.

Laurie Jewett (Viola) feels masks are dividing people and should be free to wear or not wear.

Levi Wintz (Moscow) believes the mask mandate has an issue with legality and people should make the cost benefit analysis of possible death from COVID for themselves.

Amy Paul (Moscow) provided statistics and feels the resolution is overreach.

Heidi Scheibe (Moscow) feels Moscow has lost perspective on the issue, compared COVID deaths to flu deaths, and does not support masks.

Josh Cruz (Moscow) is against the extension of the resolution.

Tyler Antkowiak (Moscow) opposes the extension of the resolution and would like to have metrics and a definition of emergency.

Tim Eger (Moscow) feels masks are breaking down social aspect and wants to raise family without tyranny. Does not support extension.

Bess Blakey (Moscow) asked how many emails were received both for and against masks. She spoke on germs from her registered nurse perspective and requested the emergency order expire.

Sierra Valentine (Moscow) is in support of the mask mandate as she feels safer, especially with students back in town.

Dennis Pratt (Moscow) agrees with previous testimony against masks and feels it is instilling a fear that harms globally.

Rory Wilson (Moscow) feels the issue lands on different sides of the political aisle and suggests looking at different countries for protocols as there isn't enough evidence and science.

Elizabeth Landis (Moscow) why six-foot distance and masks in the council chambers as it is an either/or regulation. Riedner explained the chairs are set six feet apart and if you are sitting down, you may remove your mask. However, if you are moving about the chambers, the mask must be worn. Sullivan said she needs to set her feelings aside. Health experts are recommending extension of masks and that can't be ignored. She is in favor of the resolution extending the mask mandate.

Kelly said the Council has received emails from citizens on both sides of the mask mandate. She understands the issue of breathing but believes this is the direction Moscow needs to go.

Bettge commented masks are worn to protect others. Feels the zero deaths and low positive rate is due to the mask requirement. Once Moscow is in the CDC green zone, he suggests setting a timeframe for

removal and perhaps reconsider in mid-November when U of I students leave for break.

Taruscio doesn't believe ending the mandate as a good decision. She would like to see criteria for when it can be lifted. Show data that the community can support.

Zabala agrees there is a need for what constitutes an emergency and still supports the extension at this time. Elderly people and those with underlying medical conditions deserve to be able to safely exist in public spaces. This mask resolution extension makes that possible and is also freedom. What can be controlled is how citizens treat each other and doing the best we can.

Laflin said with masks, people feel more comfortable walking around town. There is an obligation to wear a mask to help those around you stay healthy. She is concerned with ending the mandate early due to people traveling during Thanksgiving and Christmas. A benchmark needs to be defined by major medical community.

Mayor Lambert expressed his appreciation for comments from citizens. Moscow is a great community and can come together to make this work. Masks are the right thing and best weapon against COVID.

Sullivan said Public Health Idaho North Central District has metrics at which they would support municipalities to mandate masks but feels those metrics would need to be used for Moscow and Pullman as we are one community.

Kelly moved to adopt the Resolution extending Amended Public Health Emergency Order 20-03 until January 5, 2021. Sullivan seconded. Taruscio inquired about adding benchmarking to the motion. Riedner said the emergency ordinance is as it is. Staff can review benchmarks and bring it forward to committee. If criteria can be decided by the Council, it can be used to gauge continuation of resolution or terminating early. Taruscio said she is in favor of the extension but would like to see progress or lack thereof in order to make an informed decision. Sullivan agrees and would still like to know what the community partners feel. Kelly proposed this emergency health order with the knowledge that there is ample time to work on benchmarks. Laflin is in favor of criteria and wants to be sure community partners are consistent with criteria and use public health data. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

8. Consideration of Extension of Resolution 2020-11 Allowing Temporary Expansion into Main Street Right-of-Way (ACTION ITEM) - Gary J. Riedner

On June 1, 2020, City Council passed and approved Resolution 2020-11 authorizing the temporary suspension of specific sections of Moscow City Code Title 9, Chapter 12, Sidewalk Café Regulations. The temporary program provided eating and drinking establishments and other merchants located in the Central Business District to provide increased opportunities for social distancing in order to comply with the Stay Healthy Order issued by Idaho Governor Brad Little and the Director of the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare Dave Jeppeson, to aid in achieving compliance with the Business Protocols and Guidelines issued through Rebound Idaho.

To date the City Clerk has issued sixteen temporary expansion permits. Two businesses asked for the removal of their expansion because 10-minute pickup spaces located in front of their businesses were determined to be more valuable to them than extra seating.

Because of the unseasonably warm weather that the region has been experiencing, it is anticipated that the current holders of expanded sidewalk café permits will want to extend the date of Resolution 2020-11 beyond the scheduled termination date of Sunday, October 4, 2020. In order to accommodate that extension, and to allow for the flexibility, staff has prepared the attached draft Resolution which extends the date of termination to December 1, 2020, unless terminated earlier administratively by the City Supervisor, as a result of safety concerns as a result of climate and weather conditions (including snow and ice conditions), after consultation with City staff charged with maintaining the public right-of-way.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Approve Resolution to extend Resolution 2020-11 Allowing Temporary Expansion into Main Street Right-of-Way, or take such other action deemed appropriate.

Riedner introduced the item as written above. There has been concern regarding the continuation of take-out parking spaces. Staff was intending to keep them reserved but is looking for input from downtown businesses through the Chamber.

Bettge likes the program and asked if staff could review the potential of changing the City Code to allow right-of-way use for the full year during nice weather. Riedner responded there are issues between Third and Sixth with Farmers Market but those discussions are being discussed at the staff level. A downtown entertainment district can play into this.

Taruscio moved and Kelly seconded to approve the resolution to extend Resolution 2020-11 Allowing Temporary Expansion into Main Street Right-of-Way. Sullivan recused herself from this discussion. Zabala asked if the expansion could be indefinite at this time. Riedner said it would require a change to the City Code. Staff would need time to work on standards and work with businesses to determine what would work and what would not work. If Council would like to direct staff to look at the best parts of this temporary program and suggest Code changes for the future. Zabala would be in favor of that. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous (Five). Nays: None. Abstentions: One (Sullivan recused). Motion carried.

REPORTS

City Council

Moscow Volunteer Fire Department – Laflin reported the department is in a structure transition.

Human Rights Commission – Laflin said the Commission is still working on the theme Intersectionality for the restorative justice forum in February.

Sustainable Environment Commission – Laflin reported the Commission is discussing “Bee City” and the value of pollinators.

Moscow Tree Commission - Sullivan said the Commission received the Bee City report; “Caring for Your Trees” article was included in the water billing newsletter.

Moscow Transportation Commission – Sullivan reported the Commission had an overview of project updates; some changes in membership; and discussed goals and topics for future meetings.

Moscow Pathways Commission – Kelly said the Commission had their annual bike tour.

Planning & Zoning Commission – Kelly said the biggest discussion is 5G which will be coming to Council soon.

Fair and Affordable Housing Commission – Taruscio reported the Commission is working on a response to the housing study and ways the Regional Housing Leadership team and the FAHC can work together.

Parks & Recreation Commission – Taruscio said the Commission also heard the Bee City information and also discussed an idea for an RC car track in the city.

Moscow Urban Renewal Agency – Bettge said the Agency approved their annual budget.

SMART Transit – Bettge said the Board discussed status of fleet and availability for fixed routes and dial-a-ride; discussed a third route to begin in January.

Building Code Advisory Committee – Bettge reported the Committee is working through the international building and international residential codes, which include boarding housings and daycare regulations. Next review will be mechanical and electrical codes with presentation to Council in November.

Palouse Knowledge Corridor – Bettge said Brian Craft stepped up as President; the 501c3 designation in Idaho should be complete in January; working to transfer University Tech businesses into businesses based on Palouse.

Mayor

Mayor Lambert said there was a terminal meeting discussion with Mead and Hunt. The airport board discussed flights and other exciting ideas such as meeting with Sky West.

Staff

No report offered.

ADJOURN

By consensus of the Council, the meeting adjourned at 9:29 p.m.

ATTEST:


Laurie M. Hopkins, City Clerk




Bill Lambert, Mayor

9/20/2020

Dear Moscow City Council,

The Palouse Physician Pandemic Recovery Task Force is made of a group of local Whitman and Latah County Physicians who are dedicated this community. We have focused over the past six months on managing the unique circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic in our region. We are writing to express our full support regarding extending the mask ordinance in Moscow.

Masks are recommended by every major medical group to help reduce the spread of COVID-19. This includes but is not limited to the World Health Organization, The Centers for Disease Control, The American Medical Association, the American Hospital Association, and American Nurses Association, The American College of Physicians, The American Academy of Pediatrics, The American Academy of Family Physicians, The American College of Surgeons, and The American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology. These groups are using the best available medical evidence to make this recommendation.

Every day the people on the list below are working hard for this community in healthcare. Since the start of this pandemic we have been wearing our personal protective equipment to keep ourselves and our patients safe. We trust our equipment. We rely on it. We also rely on the community to continue to practice safe measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19. This includes wearing masks, social distancing, and testing when one is sick with symptoms or is exposed to COVID-19.

Wearing a mask is part of the equation of keeping our communities safe. It protects the vulnerable and keeps our schools open. Please take the advice of the many groups above, and the physicians below.

Sincerely,

The Palouse Physician Pandemic Recovery Task Force

Dr. Day MD, Pediatrics, Dr. DeVries MD, Family Medicine, Dr. Early MD, Cardio-thoracic Surgery and CMO Pullman Regional Hospital, Dr. Fosback MD, Internal Medicine, Dr. Gautreaux MD, Family Medicine, Dr. Geheb MD, Internal Medicine, Dr. Goodrich DO, Otolaryngology, Dr. Grindeland MD, Pathology, Dr. Guida MD, Family Medicine, Dr. Henry MD, Sports Medicine/Family Medicine, Dr. Hoehn MD, Ophthalmology, Dr. Hryniewicz MD, Pediatrics, Dr. D. Jones MD, Cardiology, Dr. Mikkelsen MD, Emergency Medicine, Dr. Minudri MD, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Dr. Parker MD, Family Medicine, Dr. Simpson MD, Internal Medicine, Dr. Tingstad MD, Orthopedics and Dr. Visger MD, General Surgery.



LATAH COUNTY
HENRIANNE K. WESTBERG
CLERK OF THE DISTRICT COURT
EX-OFFICIO AUDITOR AND RECORDER
P.O. BOX 8068
MOSCOW, IDAHO 83843-0568

Phone: (208) 883-2249
Fax: (208) 883-7203
E-mail: hwestberg@latah.id.us

CLERK OF BOCC
DEPUTIES
Kara Egan

SOCIAL SERVICES
DEPUTIES
Tina Wytcherley
June Beyer

AUDITOR
DEPUTIES
Melody Chapman
Stacey Chapman
Tracy Dixon
Jennifer Henrichs
Alexa Kim
Christine Nauman
Thomas Anderson

DISTRICT COURT
DEPUTIES
Tonya Dodge
Ranae Converse
Stephanie Dike
Amanda Heilman
Peggy Lynd
Charlotte Mansil
Elizabeth Mottern
Jennifer Oliphant
Kim Workman
Tamzen Reeves

To: City of Moscow
City Council Members

From: Henrienne K. Westberg
Clerk of the District Court
Chief Elections Officer

Date: September 21, 2020

Re: Extended Mask Ordinance
Request to Change Mask Citation

I am writing in support of the City of Moscow's consideration of extending the mandatory mask ordinance beyond the November 3rd General Election. I am very concerned that large crowds at our three city polling locations could increase the spread of the Covid-19 virus to my poll workers and staff. While we are doing everything we can to encourage absentee voting, we also know that there will be voters coming to the polls on Election Day. Requiring them to wear a mask will help contain the virus and make voting safer for everyone.

Additionally, I would ask the Moscow City Council to amend their mask ordinance so that the violation would be cited as an infraction rather than a misdemeanor. An infraction would better serve the purpose of enforcement. The current misdemeanor violation brings with it the county's responsibility of providing not only a public defender, but also a court trial if necessary. At this time of pandemic, a misdemeanor citation becomes a burden on an already heavily impacted court system.

Thank you for your consideration of my requests. Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns that I can help you with as you deliberate on these matters.

HKW



**Latah County
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

P.O. Box 8068 ♦ 522 South Adams ♦ Moscow, Idaho 83843
(208) 883-7208 ♦ fax (208) 883-2280 ♦ e-mail bocc@latah.id.us
Thomas C. Lamar ♦ David McGraw ♦ Kathie LaFortune

September 21, 2020

Mayor Lambert and Moscow City Council

Sent via email to: blambert@ci.moscow.id.us & council@ci.moscow.id.us

Dear Mayor Lambert and Esteemed Members of Council:

The Latah County Board of County Commissioners would like to express our support of extending the face covering and social distancing ordinance through at least the remainder of this calendar year to safely get through this upcoming election and its aftermath. With the university back in session, public schools meeting in person, and the change in the weather forcing people indoors, doing all we can to limit the spread of COVID-19 is one of our highest priorities. On this day that we reach 200,000 deaths from COVID-19 nationally, we can point to local swift action for slowing the spread in our county, and likely saving lives. Latah was among the first 200 counties in the United States to declare a state of emergency, and our local intergovernmental cooperation based on that declaration has provided enviable results to date.

We would also like to request the City of Moscow's consideration in changing the penalty from a misdemeanor to an infraction. As you may know, misdemeanors carry additional costs in the form of jury trials and public defenders, both of which are funded by Latah County. By contrast, infractions only require a court trial and do not involve appointing public defenders.

Given the restrictions imposed by the Idaho Supreme Court, jury trials have become significantly complicated. In fact, we have an upcoming misdemeanor jury trial that will require all three of our courtrooms in order to meet social distancing requirements. This essentially shuts down any other court proceedings for the duration of the trial.

In light of this, we would ask that when you extend the mask and social distancing requirements, you amend the penalty to an infraction instead of a misdemeanor. If misdemeanor options are important, we suggest that the penalty be enhanceable from infractions to misdemeanors for subsequent violations.

While a mild inconvenience, face coverings and social distancing have allowed businesses to remain open and our university and schools to function in person. Thank you for ongoing cooperation and leadership that is assisting our county to maintain safe access to commerce and education during this pandemic.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Thomas C. Lamar in blue ink.

Thomas C. Lamar
Chair

Handwritten signature of David McGraw in blue ink.

David McGraw
Commissioner

Handwritten signature of Kathie LaFortune in blue ink.

Kathie LaFortune
Commissioner



As hospital leadership at Gritman Medical Center, we strongly support the City of Moscow's public health emergency order implemented to help protect the public, including vulnerable populations, preserve capacity in the health care system, and keep our hospital, business, schools and other organizations as open and safe as possible.

As medical leaders in our region, we use the best available science to help guide our decisions and protocols in our hospital and clinics and these actions are in alignment with state, national and global epidemiologists and public health experts.

Specifically, we strongly support the evidence-based science behind:

- Wearing cloth face coverings;
- Regular and frequent hand washing and sanitizing;
- Keeping social distance of at least 6 feet from others when masking is not possible;
- Limiting the size of gatherings with persons who are not from your immediate household or family;
- Avoiding indoor gatherings when appropriate safety precautions cannot be maintained;
- Self-isolating when ill and contacting a provider by phone for assessment and further instructions;
- Getting tested for COVID-19 if recommended by a provider; and
- Following all public health instructions on contact tracing and quarantine if positive for COVID-19.

These simple measures and acts of kindness have been proven to be effective at:

- Slowing the transmission of the disease;
- Protecting vulnerable populations;
- Keeping business, schools and other organizations open with less disruption;
- Protecting the health and safety of hospital, clinics, health care workers and patients; and
- Preserving the capacity in our health care system to provide care for those in need—including regular health concerns not related to COVID-19 such as heart attacks, strokes, births, elective surgeries and emergency trauma.

As a community of health professionals, we believe we are stronger when we work and act together for the greater good of all in our community. Please continue to implement policies that are in alignment with these goals.

Sincerely,

Kara Besst,
President and CEO
Gritman Medical Center

Dr. John Brown,
Chief Medical Officer
Gritman Medical Center



Moscow School District #281

650 N. Cleveland St. Moscow, ID 83843 (208) 882-1120 fax (208) 883-4440 www.msd281.org

Dr. Gregory J. Bailey, Superintendent

Carrie Brooks, Curriculum Director
Jennifer Johnson, Business Manager

Charlie Gerke, Operations Director
Shannon Richards, Special Services Director

September 18, 2020

To Mayor Bill Lambert and the Moscow City Council Members,

I am writing to express Moscow School District 281's support for The City of Moscow's extension of the Public Health Emergency Order requiring social distancing and masks in cases where social distancing cannot be maintained. The evidence is overwhelming of how social distancing and wearing masks are the strongest deterrents in spreading the COVID-19 virus.

Moscow School District #281 will be continuing their requirement for all students, staff members, and guests who enter any Moscow School District facilities, or are attending a Moscow School District event to follow the same guidelines regarding social distancing and masks. Your decision to extend the Public Health Emergency Order within the city of Moscow will help support our requirement.

Our District sees tremendous value in these requirements and believe this will be a major factor in getting all our students fully back in our schools. We strongly support a decision by the Moscow City Council to move forward with an extension of the Public Health Emergency Order requiring social distancing and masks in cases where social distancing cannot be maintained. Together we can keep Moscow healthy and thriving.

Sincerely,

Gregory J. Bailey, PhD
Superintendent

Administration
650 N. Cleveland
Moscow, ID 83843
208.882.1120
FAX: 208.883.4440

**Moscow
High School**
402 E. Fifth Street
Moscow, ID 83843
208.882.2591
FAX: 208.892.1136

**Moscow
Middle School**
1410 East D Street
Moscow, ID 83843
208.882.3577
FAX: 208.892.1182

**Lena
Whitmore
Elementary**
110 S. Blaine
Moscow, ID 83843
208.882.2621
FAX: 208.892.1202

**A.B. McDonald
Elementary**
2323 East D Street
Moscow, ID 83843
208.882.0228
FAX: 208.892.1216

**J. Russell
Elementary**
119 N. Adams
Moscow, ID 83843
208.882.2715
FAX: 208.892.1241

**West Park
Elementary**
510 Home Street
Moscow, ID 83843
208.882.2714
FAX: 208.892.1259

**Paradise
Creek
Regional
High School**
1314 S. Main
Moscow, ID 83843
208.882.3687
FAX: 208.882.6815

**Support
Services
Facility**
FAX: 208.892.1265
Location:
2245 White Avenue
Facilities
208.892.1129
Food Service
208.892.1123
Transportation
208.882.3933



Public Health

Idaho North Central District

**Nez Perce County**

215 10th Street
Lewiston, ID 83501
(208) 799-3100
Fax (208) 799-0349

Latah County

333 E Palouse River Drive
Moscow, ID 83843
(208) 882-7506
Fax (208) 882-3494

Clearwater County

105 115th Street
Orofino, ID 83544
(208) 476-7850
Fax (208) 476-7494

Idaho County

903 West Main
Grangeville, ID 83530
(208) 983-2842
Fax (208) 983-2845

Lewis County

132 N Hill Street
P O Box 277
Kamiah, ID 83536
(208) 935-2124
Fax (208) 935-0223

September 17, 2020

Mayor Bill Lambert
206 E. Third Street
Moscow, ID 83843

Re: Extending the Public Health Emergency Order

Dear Mayor Lambert and Council Members,

Thank you for your ongoing support and leadership in protecting the health of the citizens of Moscow. With the deadline for termination of your Public Health Emergency Order approaching, I would like to encourage you to extend your order through the end of this calendar year.

With the ongoing COVID-19 research there is now convincing evidence that wearing masks reduces the transmission of COVID-19 for healthcare workers and the public, and that cloth masks can stop the dispersal of droplets carrying the virus. We also know that masking is most effective when combined with physical distancing, frequent handwashing, rapid testing and contact tracing.

The science tells us that this virus will be with us at least through the winter months, and without a vaccine, masks and physical distancing remain our most successful mitigation strategies in preventing the spread of this virus.

Thank you again for your ongoing leadership and for considering an extension to your Public Health Emergency Order.

Sincerely,

Carol M Moehrle
District Director



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
875 Perimeter Drive MS 3151
Moscow ID 83844-3151
208-885-6365

September 21, 2020

Moscow City Council
City of Moscow
206 E. Third St.
Moscow, ID 83843

Dear Mayor Lambert and members of the Moscow City Council,

The University of Idaho is in strong support of extending the city of Moscow's face covering ordinance.

Latah County's COVID-19 infection rate has remained relatively low compared to nearby communities thanks to preventative measures like the city's mask resolution. Combined with actions at the University of Idaho, including ongoing testing of the Moscow campus community, frequent cleaning of high-traffic areas, thermal scanners, limited room capacity and social distancing, the face covering policy will ensure we keep the virus in check to the extent possible.

Extending the city of Moscow's ordinance to Dec. 31 would also be in line with decisions at the University of Idaho and other regional employers such as the Moscow School District and Gritman Medical Center. The university requires face coverings on campus and will continue to do so until the threat of COVID-19 subsides.

Moscow is consistently recognized as one of the best college towns in America because of the welcoming and energetic feeling the city and its residents provide. We collaborate on events, policies and services wherever we can. We're in this together.

As a community partner, the University of Idaho stands ready to support an extension of the city's face covering resolution for the remainder of 2020. Please let us know what the university can do to support this measure.

Sincerely,

C. Scott Green
President



**Latah County
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

P.O. Box 8068 ♦ 522 South Adams ♦ Moscow, Idaho 83843
(208) 883-7208 ♦ fax (208) 883-2280 ♦ e-mail bocc@latah.id.us
Thomas C. Lamar ♦ David McGraw ♦ Kathie LaFortune

September 21, 2020

Mayor Lambert and Moscow City Council

Sent via email to: blambert@ci.moscow.id.us & council@ci.moscow.id.us

Dear Mayor Lambert and Esteemed Members of Council:

The Latah County Board of County Commissioners would like to express our support of extending the face covering and social distancing ordinance through at least the remainder of this calendar year to safely get through this upcoming election and its aftermath. With the university back in session, public schools meeting in person, and the change in the weather forcing people indoors, doing all we can to limit the spread of COVID-19 is one of our highest priorities. On this day that we reach 200,000 deaths from COVID-19 nationally, we can point to local swift action for slowing the spread in our county, and likely saving lives. Latah was among the first 200 counties in the United States to declare a state of emergency, and our local intergovernmental cooperation based on that declaration has provided enviable results to date.

We would also like to request the City of Moscow's consideration in changing the penalty from a misdemeanor to an infraction. As you may know, misdemeanors carry additional costs in the form of jury trials and public defenders, both of which are funded by Latah County. By contrast, infractions only require a court trial and do not involve appointing public defenders.

Given the restrictions imposed by the Idaho Supreme Court, jury trials have become significantly complicated. In fact, we have an upcoming misdemeanor jury trial that will require all three of our courtrooms in order to meet social distancing requirements. This essentially shuts down any other court proceedings for the duration of the trial.

In light of this, we would ask that when you extend the mask and social distancing requirements, you amend the penalty to an infraction instead of a misdemeanor. If misdemeanor options are important, we suggest that the penalty be enhanceable from infractions to misdemeanors for subsequent violations.

While a mild inconvenience, face coverings and social distancing have allowed businesses to remain open and our university and schools to function in person. Thank you for ongoing cooperation and leadership that is assisting our county to maintain safe access to commerce and education during this pandemic.

Sincerely,

Thomas C. Lamar
Chair

David McGraw
Commissioner

Kathie LaFortune
Commissioner