

**BLAINE COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. 2022-01**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BLAINE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPEALING BLAINE COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. 2021-13**

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death, is caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which is a new strain of coronavirus that had not been previously identified in humans and can easily spread from person to person. The virus is spread between individuals who are in close contact with each other through respiratory droplets; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 30, 2020, the International Health Regulations Emergency Committee of the World Health Organization declared the outbreak of COVID-19 a public health emergency of international concern; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, Idaho Governor Brad Little signed a declaration of emergency for the State of Idaho in response to concerns that cases of COVID-19 are imminent in Idaho; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 16, 2020, the Board of County Commissioners enacted Resolution No. 2020-12, declaring a disaster in Blaine County due to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, those disaster declarations were followed by several emergency state orders and Blaine County ordinances that curtailed travel, businesses, trades, and activities in order to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus in Blaine County; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 8, 2020, the Board of County Commissioners enacted Ordinance No. 2020-03, requiring that persons wear face coverings subject to certain exceptions; and

**WHEREAS**, prior to the passage of Ordinance 2020-03, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) had recommended that people wear face coverings in public, especially when other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain; and

**WHEREAS**, on October 22, 2020, the Board of County Commissioners enacted Ordinance No. 2020-05, which repealed Ordinance 2020-03, and required that persons in Blaine County wear face coverings subject to certain exceptions, limited indoor and outdoor group sizes, and required social distancing; and

**WHEREAS**, Ordinance No. 2021-05, and the mask wearing requirements required therein, was repealed by the Board when it adopted Ordinance 2021-08A, on June 1, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board reinstated the mask requirement when infections rates significantly increased throughout Blaine County when it enacted Ordinance No. 2021-13 on September 14, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, wearing face coverings has been an effective, inexpensive, and simple method of lessening community spread of the COVID-19 virus; and

**WHEREAS**, the development and approval of COVID-19 vaccines has resulted in the vaccination of a significant number of Blaine County citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, these vaccination efforts, which are ongoing, have slowed COVID-19 infection rates; and

**WHEREAS**, the CDC has modified its recommendations regarding mask wearing; and

**WHEREAS**, regional hospitalization rates due to COVID-19 infections have decreased, and the overall impact to the hospital system has improved; and

**WHEREAS**, vaccinating citizens and protecting the public health, safety, and welfare of Blaine County citizens and visitors continues to remain the Board's highest priority.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BLAINE COUNTY IDAHO:**

**Section 1. REPEAL**

Ordinance No. 2021-13 is hereby repealed, and such repeal shall become effective upon being posted in five (5) public places in accordance with Idaho Code Section 31-715.

If medically possible, persons who have not been vaccinated are strongly encouraged to schedule vaccination appointments and become vaccinated as soon as possible. Individuals and businesses are strongly encouraged to follow the CDC recommendations regarding face coverings as well as IDHW's Stage 4 Stay Healthy Guidelines.

Regularly passed, approved and adopted by the Blaine County Board of County Commissioners on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of March, 2022.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF  
BLAINE COUNTY, IDAHO

(seal)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dick Fosbury, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Angenie McCleary, Vice-Chair

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Stephen McDougall Graham, Clerk

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Muffy Davis, Commissioner