May 4, 2020 "Reopen SLOW, when we have DATA to show." May the Fourth be with You! 2:00 PM Big Horn County COVID-19 Update/Response

For Immediate Release

Wednesday, we announced a new case of COVID in our county. This means we have gone from zero for two weeks to one case. This means that we no longer meet either the President's or the Governor's metrics for considering reopening our county. Our Big Horn County Incident Command Team is meeting today to discuss how we can move forward with the implementation of relaxed guidance from the state.

Dr. Harrist has directed us to act in a "thoughtful and measured" data driven method specifically tailored to our county.

Governor Gordon has directed, "Wyoming must prevent a resurgence of COVID-19 to minimize further disruptions to people's lives and to the economy. The process to ease



restrictions, recover businesses and resume activities will be driven by health related data." "Our transition must be health-data driven, **not date-driven**."

We understand everyone's eagerness to get back to normalcy, whatever that new normalcy will look like. We are eager too. We are moving forward as fast as we safely can. Please understand there are many opinions about this emergency and there are a lot of unknowns that we are trying to sort though. However, we will not, we cannot, make a decision that places our county citizens at risk.

With the State authorization for countywide variances, Big Horn County has developed a transition plan template. Businesses desiring a variance to the current state health orders must submit and adhere to a plan that will detail social distancing, face coverings and cleaning routines. This template is attached for your convenience https://www.bighorncountywy.gov/component/edocman/plan-template/viewdocument/622?Itemid=0 and is also available at www.bighorncountywy.gov.

If you need help finding a health care provider or additional information on COVID call 211.

Anyone who feels that they may be at risk of harming themselves, or who knows of someone in immediate danger of harming themselves, should **call 911**. Anyone experiencing suicidal thoughts is encouraged to call the U.S. National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at <u>1-800-273-TALK (8255)</u> or **text "WYO" to 741-741** for the Crisis Text Line. Veterans can call: 1 800-273-8255.

Respectfully, David Weston, Fairbanks, MD, FAAFP Big Horn County Health Officer and the entire Big Horn County Incident Management Team

For Sources of Information on COVID-19:

- 1. Big Horn County Public Health Website: <u>https://www.bighorncountywy.gov</u> https://www.bighorncountywy.gov/departments/public-health
- Big Horn County COVID-19 INFORMATION LINE 307-568-4031 Or Email us @ covid-19@bighorncountywy.gov
- Park County Public Health Coronavirus Information Line: 754-1870 or 527-1870 (Updated regularly). Big Horn County may use this.
- Up to date announcements from Wyoming Department of Health as they are released Wyoming Department of Health Website: https://health.wyo.gov/publichealth/infectious-disease-epidemiologyunit/disease/novel-coronavirus.
- 5. CDC Website: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/index.html
- 6. Wyoming Department of Health State Orders: <u>https://health.wyo.gov/publichealth/infectious-disease-epidemiology-unit/disease/novel-</u> <u>coronavirus/covid-19-orders-and-guidance/</u>

