County of Inyo



HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

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Marilyn Mann, Director mmann@inyocounty.us

Date: September 23, 2021

To: Inyo County Local Agency Governing Bodies

From: Dr. James Richardson, Inyo County Public Health Officer

Re: Continued Recommendation Re Social Distancing and Remote Meetings

In order to help minimize the spread of COVID-19, I recommend that physical/social distancing measures continue to be practiced throughout our Inyo County communities, including at public meetings of the Board of Supervisors and other public agencies. Individuals continue to contract COVID-19 and spread the infection throughout our communities. Social distancing, masking, and vaccination are crucial mitigation measures to prevent the disease's spread. Remote public agency meetings allow for the participation of the community, agency staff, presenters, and board members in a safe environment, with no risk of contagion. As such, and since this disease negatively and directly impacts the ability of public agencies to conduct public meetings safely in person, it is my recommendation that local public agencies conduct their public meetings remotely.

This recommendation will remain in place until further notice.

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To: Board of Supervisors

From: Caryn K. Slack, Public Health Officer

Re: Recommendation regarding Social Distancing and Virtual Meetings

As Health Officer for Mono County, I strongly recommend that physical/social distancing measures continue to be practiced throughout our Mono County communities, including at meetings of the Board of Supervisors and other County-related legislative bodies subject to the Brown Act, to minimize the spread of COVID-19. In workplaces, employers are subject to Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Temporary Standards (ETS).

Subchapter 7. General Industry Safety Orders Introduction

§3205. COVID-19 Prevention.

NOTE: See Executive Order N-84-20 (2019 CA EO 84-20), issued in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, which suspends certain provisions relating to the exclusion of COVID-19 cases from the workplace.

- (a) Scope.
- (1) This section applies to all employees and places of employment, with the following exceptions:
- (A) Work locations with one employee who does not have contact with other persons.
- (B) Employees working from home.
- (C) Employees with occupational exposure as defined by section 5199, when covered by that section.
- (D) Employees teleworking from a location of the employee's choice, which is not under the control of the employer.
- (2) Nothing in this section is intended to limit more protective or stringent state or local health department mandates or guidance.
- (b) Definitions. The following definitions apply to this section and to sections 3205.1 through 3205.4.

(1) "Close contact" means being within six feet of a COVID-19 case for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or greater in any 24-hour period within or overlapping with the "high-risk exposure period" defined by this section. This definition applies regardless of the use of face coverings.

Whether vaccinated or not, positive individuals are contracting the Omicron variant and infecting others in our communities. Social distancing and masking are crucial mitigation measures to prevent the disease's spread. Virtual board meetings allow for the participation of the community, county staff, presenters, and board members in a safe environment, with no risk of contagion. It is recommended that legislative bodies in Mono County implement fully remote meetings to the extent possible.

If you have any questions regarding this recommendation, please do not hesitate to contact me, or Public Health Director Bryan Wheeler. We will continue to evaluate this recommendation on an ongoing basis and will communicate when there is no longer such a recommendation with respect to meetings for public bodies.