

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-07

AN ORDER EXEMPTING OSAGE COUNTY, KANSAS FROM EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 20-68

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 33, paragraph (h) of House Bill No. 2016, the Board of County Commissioners may issue an order relating to public health that includes provisions that are less stringent than the provisions of an executive order effective statewide issued by the Governor.

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners has consulted with the Osage County Health officer regarding the Governor's November 18, 2020 executive order and makes the following findings:

- a.) Enforcement of the Governor's executive order mandating masks would be difficult, if not impossible and would be an unreasonable strain on county resources such as PPE and local law enforcement.
- b.) Broad ranging recommendations on safety precautions to fight the potential spread of Covid-19 better serve the public's overall interests than Governmental mandates.
- c.) Opting out of the Governor's statewide executive order gives Osage County flexibility going forward to make recommendations or mandates, if necessary, that best protect the health and safety of Osage County, Kansas.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED by the Board of County Commissioners of Osage County, Kansas, that Osage County is hereby exempt from the requirements set forth in Executive Order No. 20-68 issued by the Governor of the State of Kansas.

IT IS SO ORDERED this 23rd day of November, 2020.

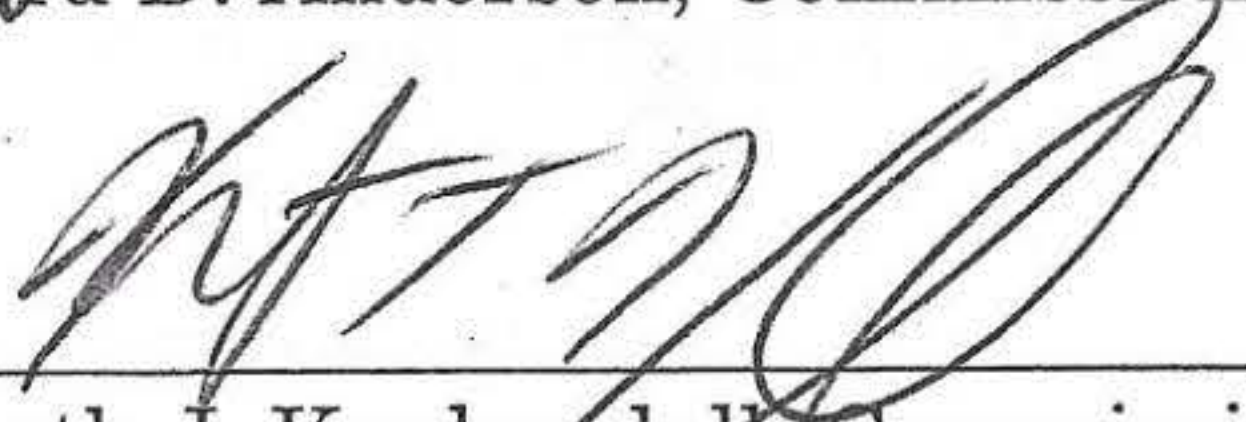
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Fred L. Diver, Chairman

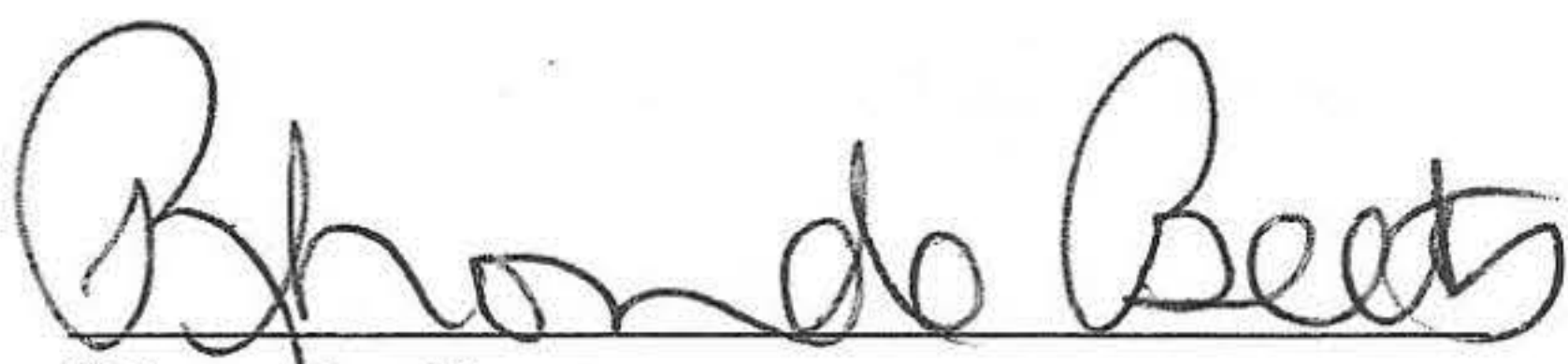


Gaylord D. Anderson, Commissioner



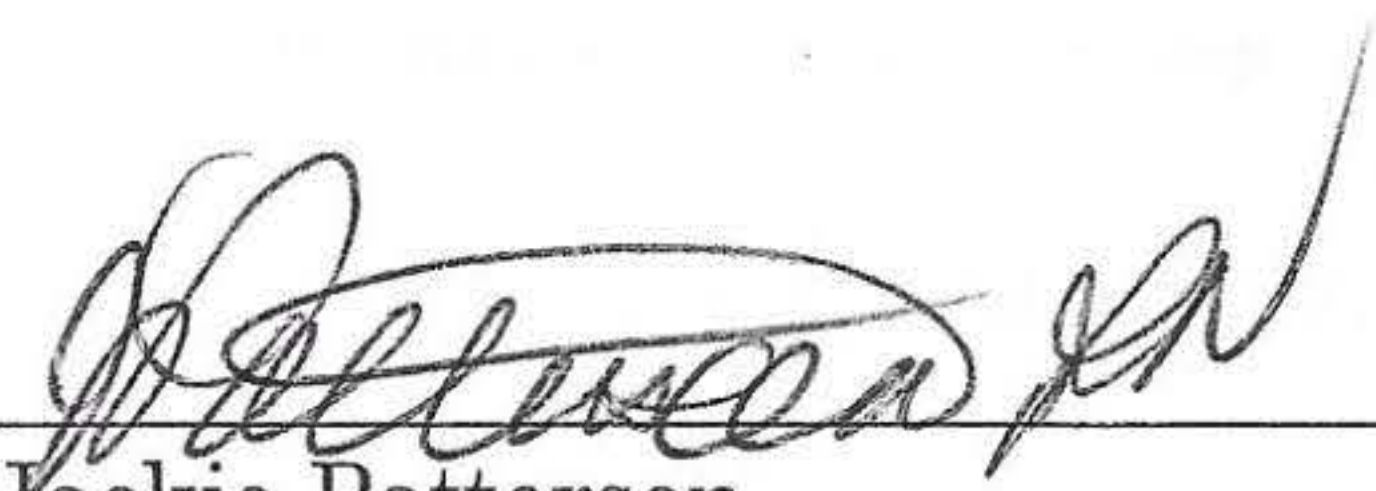
Kenneth J. Kuykendall, Commissioner

ATTEST:



Rhonda Beets
Osage County Clerk

APPROVED BY:



Jackie Patterson
Osage County Health Officer

OSAGE COUNTY FACE COVERING PROTOCOL

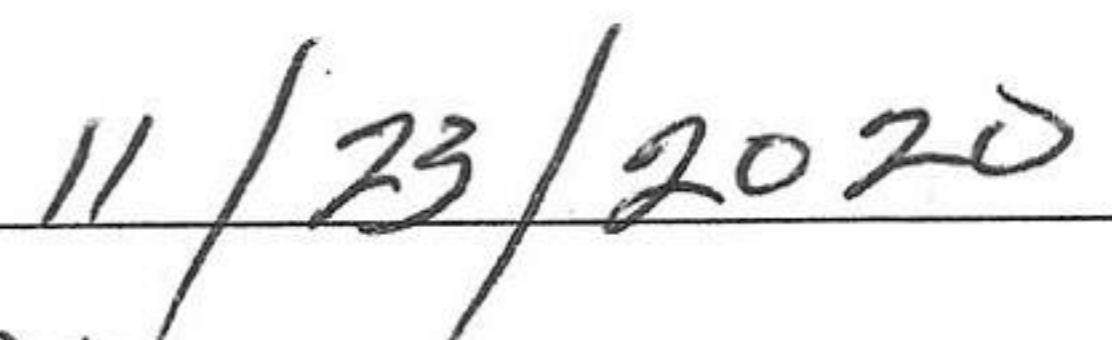
1. Protocol:

- a. Osage County does not mandate the use of masks/facial coverings, but recognizes the significance of utilizing them in order to mitigate the transmission of COVID-19 in the population. Therefore, masks are not mandated, but are strongly recommended in Osage County whenever in any public space indoors, or outside when at least 6 feet social distancing cannot be maintained.
- b. While we recognize the significance of face coverings in mitigating the transmission of Covid-19, we find a mandate inherently unenforceable at the County level.
- c. Social distancing guidelines will continue to be strongly encouraged, as well as practicing good personal hygiene and staying home if ill.
- d. Whenever feasibly possible unnecessary gatherings are discouraged.
- e. Businesses, schools, and other entities, public or private, may choose to require patrons, customers, employees, or other people to wear face coverings when in attendance to an event, inside a business, while working, or when engaged in any activity within that entity.
- f. For the purpose of this document, a "face covering" means a covering of the nose and mouth that is secured to the head with ties, straps, or loops over the ears or is simply wrapped around the lower face. A face covering can be made of a variety of synthetic and natural fabrics, including cotton, silk, or linen. Ideally, a face covering has two or more layers. A face covering may be factory-made, sewn by hand, or can be improvised from household items such as scarfs, bandanas, t-shirts, sweatshirts, or towels.

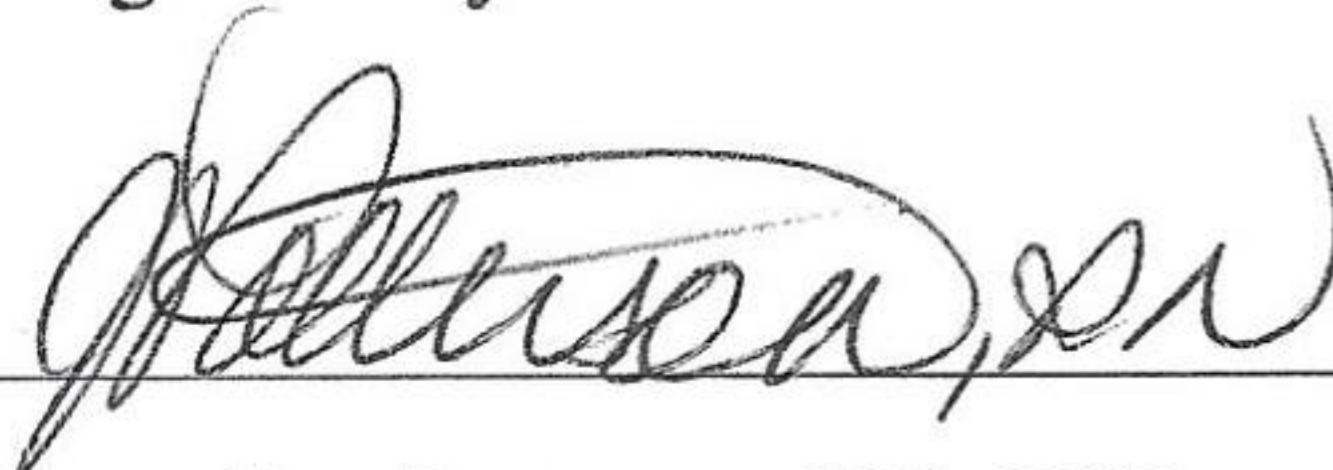
This document shall become effective as of **12:01 a.m. on Tuesday November 24, 2020**, and remain in force until rescinded. This order may be expanded and/or modified by the Osage County Board of Health as circumstances dictate in order to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in Osage County.



Osage County Board of Health



Date



Jacqueline Patterson, RN, BSN



Date

Osage County Public Health Officer