RESOLUTION No. 2020-12

A RESOLUTION AND ORDER RELATING TO PUBLIC HEALTH LESS STRINGENT THAN THE KANSAS GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER NO 20-68 REGARDING THE USE OF FACE MASKS OR OTHER FACE COVERINGS IN PUBLIC, WITHIN LANE COUNTY, KANSAS

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Kansas issued an Executive Order requiring most Kansans to wear face masks or other face coverings in public; and,

WHEREAS, K.S.A. 48-925 as amended by 2020 Special Session House Bill 2016, Sec. 33 allows the County Board of Commissioners to issue an order relating to public health that contains provisions that are less stringent than that of the Governor's state wide executive order;

WHEREAS, the Lane County, Kansas Board of County Commissioners after consulting with the local health officer regarding the Governor's executive order, finds that implementation of the full scope of the provisions in the Governor's executive order is not necessary to protect the public health and safety of those within Lane County, Kansas. The Lane County Health Officer has strongly recommended that all persons in Lane County wear a mask when in any setting where 6 feet distancing cannot be maintained; and

WHEREAS, protocols are as follows:

- 1. Lane County does not mandate the use of masks/facial coverings, but recognized 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 Lane County whenever in any public space indoors, or outside when at least 6 feet social distancing cannot be maintained.
- 2. 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.
- 3. Social distancing guidelines will continue to be strongly encouraged, as well as practicing good personal hygiene and staying home if ill.
- 4. Mass gatherings over 25 are discouraged. If a gathering over 25 is in attendance, the County highly recommends the use of face coverings.
- 5. Business, 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.
- 6. Individuals must adhere to personal hygiene guidelines and are encouraged to maintain a 6 feet distance from others.

WHEREAS, as of this date there have been 85 confirmed cases of Coronavirus in Lane County, Kansas with 29 current active cases.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the provisions of the Governor's executive order No. 20-68 regarding use of face masks or other face coverings in public in Lane County, Kansas are recommended but compliance with those provisions by the public while within Lane County, Kansas is *voluntary and not mandatory*.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED that this resolution and order shall be effective upon execution of this document.

ADOPTED by the Lane County, Kansas Board of County Commissioners on this day of November, 2020.

LANE COUNTY, KANSAS BOARD OF

COUNTY COMMISSIONS

Kiley B. Beach, Chairperson

Diana L. Paris, Commissioner

Thomas J. Bennett, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Stephanie M. Terhune, County Clerk