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PRESS RELEASE

March 18, 2020

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

OURAY COUNTY DECLARES STATE OF EMERGENCY AMID COVID-19 CONCERNS

Ouray County, Colo. – On March 16, during an emergency work session, the Ouray County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) declared a state of emergency for the County of Ouray and instructed all public buildings, as well as the Ouray County 4-H Event Center, to be closed effective March 18, 2020.

All County services remain active and are currently being served via mail, dropboxes, electronic and telephone communications. Continuity of County operations is critical at this time. Ouray County is making every effort to ensure that the County workforce remains healthy and is able to provide ongoing services to Ouray County residents. Maintaining social distancing will ensure public safety for both employees and the public during this time.

Local agencies are diligently working together to make sure that all emergency response plans are ready in case they need to be activated.

The public is asked to conduct any County business via phone or email. Please continue to utilize the usual contacts for County offices. Contacts for all County departments are available on www.ouraycountyco.gov. Ongoing updates will be made available through the County's website; all efforts will be made to issue daily updates by 12:00PM.

As of this writing, there are 0 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the City of Ouray, the Town of Ridgway or Ouray County - but that could change. We are requesting all of our residents, visitors, and businesses to help do their part to reduce the spread of potential germs.

We are asking all community members to please remember to:

- **Avoid or limit your visits to public places unless necessary**
- **Practice social distancing and keep at least 6 feet between you and the next person**
- **If possible, work from home**
- **If you are feeling sick with a cough, cold or fever symptoms, please STAY HOME**
- **Clean and disinfect hard surfaces frequently**
- **Wash your hands often, and wash for at least 20 seconds each time.**
- **Avoid contact with sick people**

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