May 29, 2020

The Honorable Governor Kate Brown
State of Oregon
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97031

Dear Governor Brown,

Sherman County’s first and foremost priority is the safety, health, and well-being of our citizens. With this goal in mind I have personally handed a paper copy of your reopening guidance’s, and safety measures, including general and Phase I sector guidelines to every business within Sherman County (excluding motels). This gave me a chance to learn what some of the challenges each business is facing. All, without exception, want to move forward to the next phase. At this time we request to move into Phase II on Saturday, June 6th, 2020, the earliest date possible.

As per OHA data, Sherman County meets or exceeds all state requirements. When we entered into Phase I, 6 contact tracers were available, and beginning next week 9 trained contact tracers will be available for contact tracing, which exceeds the 15 required per 10,000. Sherman County is fully equipped with adequate PPE for EMS, fire, law enforcement, Sherman County Medical Clinic, Community transit, and other governmental agencies within our county. Sherman County Emergency Management has an adequate stockpile of PPE to replenish as needed. The Emergency Manager provides a PPE Burn Rate to Oregon Emergency Management on a weekly basis at this time. Our local health district, North Central Public Health District, has gone above and beyond the required expectations, providing resources and much needed guidance. They have responded and worked closely with all regional entities including hospitals and medical clinics to meet the challenges.

While the citizens of Sherman County enjoy their “elbow room,” the health and safety of all citizens, not only Sherman County residents, will continue to be the number one priority. Having no known new cases we are ready to move forward into Phase II at the earliest possible date.

Regards,

Joe Dabulskis
Sherman County Judge