

**THE SHOSHONE-PAIUTE TRIBES
OF THE DUCK VALLEY INDIAN RESERVATION**

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March 17, 2020

A Statement from the Shoshone-Paiute Tribal Business Council

A statement from the Office of the Shoshone-Paiute Tribal Vice-Chairman, Brian Thomas on behalf of the Shoshone-Paiute Tribal Business Council in response to the National Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic.

During the week of March 9, 2020, the Shoshone-Paiute Tribal Business Council declared a State of Emergency for the Duck Valley Indian Reservation due to the National Coronavirus Pandemic to safeguard the tribal membership and community. This action set in motion the Tribal Emergency Response Commission (TERC) and The Owyhee Community Health Facility (OCHF) to call into action its Incident Command System (ICS).

During that time, steps have been taken to prevent possible transmission of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) within our community. These steps include travel restrictions for the Tribal Council and Employees, cancellation of all local and outside meetings, closure of the Senior Citizens Center, OCHF Fitness Room Daycare, HDC and cancellation of its scheduled events. DVHA has implemented precautionary measures for their current tenants, for more information please call 775.757.3589 ext. 110 or visit the DVHA Website. Elko County School District has closed the Owyhee Combined Schools from March 16-April 13th; Inter-tribal Council of Nevada has also closed the Duck Valley Head Start Center until April 6th.

The Owyhee Community Health Facility is in Emergency Preparedness Mode and is working diligently, taking extra measures to mitigate the spread of the virus and to protect the membership and patients. OCHF's internal patient care process has changed to reinforce the State and Tribal Plans of Social Distancing. OCHF Patient Care Process has been shared and will continue to be shared thru Community and Public Announcements.

At the time of this memorandum, there are no known confirmed cases within our community.

Please use all precautionary measures, such as hand washing for 20-seconds, not gathering in groups of more than 10 people and practicing social distancing; by doing so, will help prevent the possible transmission of germs to the elderly and those who have compromised immune systems.

Weekly meetings between the Tribal Business Council, TERC, and OCHF will continue to be held. We ask for the community's patience and understanding during this time.

For any questions regarding the OCHF Patient Process please call 775.757.2415 ext. 4237

For all other questions and concerns regarding Coronavirus (COVID-19) please call the Sho-Pai Tribal Emergency Operations Center at 775.757.2921.

Please call 911 in emergency situations that requires immediate assistance.

THE SHOSHONE-PAIUTE TRIBAL ELECTIONS WILL CONTINUE AS SCHEDULED