

# Fort Belknap Indian Community

**A RESOLUTION DECLARING AN EIGHT-DAY RESERVATION-WIDE SHUTDOWN OF THE FORT BELKNAP INDIAN RESERVATION EFFECTIVE 12:00 A.M. WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2022 THROUGH WEDNESDAY JANUARY 26, 2022 AT 11:59 P.M. DUE TO THE EXTREMELY SEVERE HEALTH RISKS OF THE SPIKE IN CASES OF THE COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS AND ITS VARIANTS**

**WHEREAS, the Fort Belknap Indian Community Council is the governing body of the Gros Ventre and Assiniboine Tribes of the Fort Belknap Indian Community, Fort Belknap Indian Reservation, Montana, by the authority of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Fort Belknap Tribes approved on the 13 day of December 1935, and**

**WHEREAS, under the Constitution and By-Laws of the Fort Belknap Indian Community, the Fort Belknap Indian Community Council is charged with the duty of protecting the health, security and general welfare of the Fort Belknap Indian Community, and**

**WHEREAS, Article V, Section 1(f) of the Fort Belknap Indian Community Constitution delineates the authority of the Fort Belknap Indian Community Council...to manage the economic affairs of the Community and to appropriate available funds for public purposes.**

**WHEREAS, the Fort Belknap Indian Community Council is charged with ensuring the health, safety and welfare of the Gros Ventre and Assiniboine members of the Fort Belknap Indian Community and its residents; and.**

**WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the Fort Belknap Indian Community Council adopted Resolution 55-2020 declaring a State of Emergency on the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation due to the extremely serious impacts of the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic on the health and wellbeing of the members and residents of the Fort Belknap Indian Community; and,.**

**WHEREAS, the Fort Belknap Indian Community ("FBIC") Council continues to monitor the spread of the extremely dangerous COVID-19 coronavirus and the impact of the pandemic on the health, safety, and wellbeing of the Gros Ventre and Assiniboine members of the Fort Belknap Indian Community and its residents; and,**

**WHEREAS, the Fort Belknap Indian Community Council continues to take steps to address the impacts of the coronavirus and its variants including going back to Phase I reopening with its restrictions as outlined in the revised Plan I reopening; and,**

**WHEREAS, the presence of cases of the Coronavirus and its variants has skyrocketed within the last week, causing the FBIC Council to have a heightened concern of COVID-19 coronavirus spread and its potential devastation of public health and safety throughout the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation, including those most at-risk, and overwhelming our health care delivery system, and recognizes that additional measures consistent with public health guidance are necessary to slow and stop the spread of COVID-19 and its variants.**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Fort Belknap Indian Community Council hereby directs the following measures be enacted until further notice:

**RESERVATION-WIDE SHUTDOWN – The Fort Belknap Indian Community Council hereby declares an Eight-Day Reservation-Wide SHUTDOWN to be effective Wednesday, January 18, 2022 at 12:00am. through Wednesday, January 26, 2022 at 11:59 p.m.**

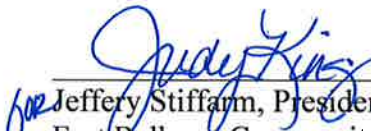
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that only essential businesses will be allowed to stay open with the restrictions outlined in revised Phase I Plan; the FB Casino shall remain shutdown.


**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the CAO shall review the office staffing from the previous shutdown and determine which essential services shall remain open and the staffing of same.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that, although it is not the customary way we as Indian people respond to our people and families, and it is with a heavy heart, in an effort to keep the virus from spreading throughout the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation and protect our people, the Fort Belknap Indian Community Council strongly urges Community members who have family members who live off-reservation, especially in areas with a high concentration of COVID-19 cases, to encourage them to stay at home and not travel to Fort Belknap until this pandemic is under control.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the FBIC Council Officers are hereby delegated the authority and responsibility to sign all documents necessary to affect this action.

**ATTEST:**


  
Jeffery Stiffarm, President  
Fort Belknap Community Council

  
Robert Bearcub, Jr., Secretary/Treasurer  
Fort Belknap Community Council

### CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, as Secretary of the Fort Belknap Indian Community Council of the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation, Montana, do hereby certify that the Fort Belknap Indian Community Council is composed of ten (10) members of whom 8 members constituting a quorum were present at a meeting thereof, duly and regularly called, noticed, convened and held this 18th day of January, 2022; and that the foregoing Resolution of the Fort Belknap Indian Community Council was duly adopted and approved the affirmative vote of 8 for; 0 opposed; 0 not voting; 0 temporary absent; 2 excused absent; and that the said Resolution has not been rescinded in any way.

DATE: 1/18/2022

  
Robert Bearcub, Jr., Secretary/Treasurer