



TOWN OF HUDSON

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

12 SCHOOL STREET, HUDSON, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03051



General Overview

The following is an update regarding the activities of the Hudson Emergency Operations Center in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. As you are aware, for the last sixteen weeks the Town of Hudson has been operational. This will be our final weekly update as we begin to move the EOC back to monitoring level. Each day staff continues to monitor several pieces of information to make sure we are developing the best guidance possible for our local response. This incident continues to be very fluid as we watch items that impact our daily activities.

To date, we have issued sixteen separate updates to the Board of Selectmen and reviewed and implemented 56 separate emergency orders. This past week, Governor Sununu extended the State of Emergency declaration for an additional twenty one days. We do not see the State of Emergency being lifted for some considerable time.

Incident Update

This week we have started to implement the re-opening efforts for the Town of Hudson. As we continue to monitor active case numbers, we are seeing positive results in our hospitalization numbers. This is a good sign for our progression towards reopening efforts.

On Monday, June 29th, we saw our first day of no additional deaths or new cases in New Hampshire. Locally we have seventeen active cases. All are positive indicators for reopening efforts in New Hampshire.

We continue to track activity in the southern part of the United States which continues to see large increases in case numbers. Several states have paused or reversed their reopening plans. With restrictions on bars and restaurants being reestablished, we are hopeful this trend does not continue north as we are having a successful reopening effort. Additionally, we are monitoring a large number of cases at a long term care facility in Nashua.

The State of New Hampshire EOC has made two adjustments this week. EMD conference calls have been moved to Wednesday only and the EOC has adjusted their hours to Monday thru Friday 08:00 – 16:00. They continue to maintain their logistical efforts to support protective clothing efforts across the state.

Locally we continue to move forward with our reopening plan. This week, Community Development is open to the public via appointment. Upon our return from the 4th of July holiday, all remaining departments in Town Hall will be open to the public by appointment.

On July 14th, we look forward to revisiting basketball courts, the dog park and play grounds for reopening efforts. Additionally, we continue to participate in the Hudson School District's reopening task force.

Financial Review

As established in the Emergency Operations Plan, we have established a Finance branch led by Kathy Carpentier, Finance Director. Early on we established this organizational branch so we could track all purchases undertaken to support our efforts to meet the challenges of the COVID-19 incident. To date our expenditures have totaled \$465,227.60.

Forward View:

Unfortunately, the future of the COVID-19 event is truly an unknown. The long term effort of hand washing, mask usage and social distancing will have a large impact on how successful we will be with maintaining our reopening efforts.

As with any event, we will need to find ways to continuously improve our response efforts. This will certainly start with training, mitigation and response planning. All three areas will need to be reviewed with development efforts this fall.

We will continue to monitor the impacts of COVID-19 on the Town of Hudson and provide the Board of Selectmen with timely updates and needed actionable items.

Closing:

As with any event, the response is not possible without the efforts of several people. Early on in the COVID-19 event it became clear we had no plan. We had theory and training to fall back on, but the blue print was being drawn as we were going. Or as others would say, we were flying a plane while we were building it.

I would like to close by thanking the Board of Selectmen and Town Administrator for trusting, supporting and empowering the department heads to respond as we needed to during this time. Openly, we all learned a tremendous amount about each other and how we could support each other. The department head performance was second to none and I am thankful for their efforts. Additionally, we built bridges to long term partnerships with the library, Hudson School District, business community and citizens of the Town. Several times a week during the EOC briefing we would review a quote that I believed had impact on our effort. One we looked at several times was from Abraham Lincoln. He stated, "The best way to predict the future is to create it." I believe the efforts of the Emergency Management Team did just that, we developed, implemented and responded to an incident in a positive way. Mitigating what could be a very serious health event in this community.

Thank you.