



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

LINDSAY BERSCHAUER • CASEY KULLA • MARY STARRETT

535 NE Fifth Street • McMinnville, OR 97128-4523
(503) 434-7501 • Fax (503) 434-7553
TTY (800) 735-2900 • www.co.yamhill.or.us

DATE: September 9, 2021
TO: Yamhill County Employees
FROM: Yamhill County Board of Commissioners Mary Starrett and Lindsay Berschauer
SUBJECT: Mandated COVID-19 Vaccinations

Dear Yamhill County Employees,

As you know, Governor Brown has released new rules mandating vaccinations for state employees and health care workers. We are aware that this news may cause concern for many of our employees. It is important that we provide information to help ease some of the fear surrounding this latest news from Governor Brown.

COVID-19 has been a major focus of the Board of Commissioner's office and the county for a year and half and it is something that we will continue to spend time and resources fighting. However, we cannot in good conscience compromise the rights of our employees to make their own health care decisions. This is a fundamental right and one we support. Likewise, the right not to be coerced into medical treatment by the government is also fundamental.

If you are considering the vaccine, you can visit the Yamhill County website to find a location near you: <https://hhs.co.yamhill.or.us/publichealth/page/upcoming-vaccine-events>.

Our health department is working to offer booster shots this fall, as well as first doses to those who are interested.

If you need to access a medical exception form, please visit:

<https://www.cascadeemployers.com/clientuploads/News/attachments/OHA-Medical-Exception-Form.pdf>

B.D. 21-378

If you need to access a religious exception form, please visit:

<https://www.cascadeemployers.com/clientuploads/News/attachments/OHA-Religious-Exception-Form.pdf>

In addition to these exception forms, we also advise that you submit a formal EXEMPTION statement and request.

We support your right to an exemption, and no employee should be coerced, bullied, or treated unfairly for submitting a medical or religious exemption.

We can assure you that while the process to navigate this new mandate is still being reviewed, Yamhill County **will not** end the employment of any employee based on their COVID-19 vaccination status. We take the health and safety of all our employees seriously and will continue to do so.

Finally, we would like to thank all our employees who have worked tirelessly throughout the pandemic serving the members of our community.

Sincerely,



Mary Starrett
Chair



Lindsay Berschauer
Vice-Chair

Accepted by Yamhill County
Board of Commissioners on
9/9/21 by Board Order
21-378