Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Office of Tribal Ogema
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Executive Order No. 20-0527-01

Eighth Update to Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Response: Partial Reopening

Section 1. Authority to Act. The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians is a federally-recognized sovereign Tribal nation retaining all inherent powers of self-government. Pursuant to Article V, Section 1 of the Tribal Constitution, the Executive Powers of the Tribe are vested in the Tribal Ogema. Among these is the authority to enforce and execute the laws of the Tribe, to oversee the administration and management of the Tribal government in accordance with the laws, resolutions and motions adopted by Tribal Council, and to manage the enterprises and lands of the tribe. Article V, Section 5(a).

Executive Orders Number 20-0313-01, 20-0316-01, 20-0323-01, 20-0326-01, 20-0408-01, 20-0415-01, 20-0427-01, and 20-0511-01 were issued in response to the COVID-19 pandemic with the Ogema providing guidance to personnel for travel restrictions and attendance concerns, limiting working government staff to only those areas critical for members' services and restricting access to facilities to discourage public meetings and gatherings. Further, Executive Order 20-0320-01 Declared a State of Emergency for the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. Tribal Council also issued Tribal Council Resolution #20-0320-096, Declaring a State of Emergency.

Section 2. Purpose; Findings. The purpose of this Order is to protect the public health, safety and welfare of the community because it is the Ogema's responsibility to oversee and manage the Tribal government and properties. The situation continues to develop quickly and we are monitoring several announcements from our home state of Michigan, include a stay at home order for all non-essential workers and the temporary closure of many businesses. We are also monitoring the federal government guidance from the Centers for Disease Control.

Section 3. Specific Action. The Ogema hereby announces the following actions:

a. Extension of the series of Executive Orders for the Tribe's response to COVID-19 through May 28, 2020 with the below exceptions and updates.
b. Beginning at 12:01 a.m. on May 28, 2020, allow social gatherings of up to 10 people and end the imposed Tribal wide curfew under Executive Order 20-0326-01. All Tribal community residents are asked to continue to use caution and limit exposure to the community as much as possible when considering visitors and gatherings. The Tribal Government Campground and Playgrounds will remain closed at this time.
c. Beginning at 12:01 a.m. on May 28, 2020, permit the reopening of Tribal Casino Resort, retail stores, and restaurants and bars with limited seating. This update to the shelter in place order comes with the guidance to use precautionary measures to continue to stop the spread of the virus by wearing masks when leaving your home, maintaining social distance while in public, and limiting your exposure if you have reason to believe your immune system is compromised or you fall into any other high risk categories for the virus. Tribal Government Offices that are currently closed will remain closed at this time except the Tribal Government Gaming Commission which will be open by appointment. Tribal Government Commissions Meetings may resume in person meetings in government offices but must observing health and safety protocols.
d. All businesses that are permitted to require their employees to leave their residence for work under this Executive Order or any Order that follows it, shall develop a COVID-19 preparedness and response plan by June 1, 2020 or within two weeks of resuming in-person activities, whichever is later, a business's plan must be made readily available to employees, labor unions, and customers, whether via website, internal network, or by hard copy.
e. Minimum requirements for COVID-19 preparedness include the continuation of safety protocols from Executive Orders 20-0326-01 and 20-0408-01 and will be expanded upon with the approval of the preparedness and response plans. These plans will include compliance with Tribal executive orders, expansion on screening for exposure, use of personal protective equipment to prevent spread, and any additional precautions appropriate for job positions and industries involved.
f. Executive Order 20-0415-01 is updated to continue the administrative leave until further notice and to continue basic benefit coverage for staff on leave until July 31, 2020. Further details and communications will be sent to impacted employees.

Section 4. Repeal. This Executive Order does not repeal any existing Executive Orders however where previous executive orders related to COVID-19 Response contradict or differ, this order supersedes those orders and shall be considered to control for the purposes of interpretation.

Section 5. Effective Date and Duration of the Order. This Executive Order shall be effective immediately upon execution by the Ogema, and shall remain in effect until a superseding order is issued.

Section 6. Goals. The Office of the Ogema will continue to monitor the situation, including issuing additional orders as is necessary. The goal of this order and all orders related to this world-wide crisis is to stem the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus and ensure the health and safety of our community.

IT IS SO ORDERED:

Larry B. Romanelli

Larry B. Romanelli, Tribal Ogema

Dated: 5-27-2020