

**TOWNSHIP OF COVERT
COUNTY OF VAN BUREN, STATE OF MICHIGAN**

RESOLUTION FOR 2020 CAMPGROUND “SOFT” OPENING

**Resolution #2020-06
Effective: May 13, 2020**

WHEREAS, Covert Township owns and operates the Covert Township Park and Campground; and

WHEREAS the Covert Township Park is annually open for all camping on May 15 of each calendar year; and

WHEREAS the Covert Township Park provides outdoor recreational activities for residents of an visitors to Covert Township; and

WHEREAS Executive Order 2020-43 entered by Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer places Temporary Restrictions on the use of places of public accommodation, due to the impact of COVID-19, a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death; and

WHEREAS Executive Order 2020-69 rescinded Executive Order 2020-43 and replaced it with an order limiting gatherings of more than ten people; and restricting access to defined “places of public accommodation” including, but not limited to libraries, museums, restaurants, casinos, and theaters. A place of public accommodation was defined in the order as “a business, or an educational, refreshment, entertainment, or recreation facility, or an institution of any kind, whether licensed or not, whose goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations are extended, offered, sold, or otherwise made available to the public. Place of public accommodation also includes the

facilities of private clubs, including country clubs, golf clubs, boating or yachting clubs, sports or athletic clubs, and dining clubs.”

WHEREAS the United States Centers for Disease control indicates that “state and local authorities will decide whether parks and other recreational facilities will be open”; and

WHEREAS, executive orders entered by the Michigan governor in response to COVID-19 have allowed parks and recreational areas to remain open, without access to public use areas such as bathrooms, playgrounds and other public provisions; and

WHEREAS the Michigan Governor’s “stay home/stay safe” orders are lifted as of May 15, 2020, except for the “places of public accommodation”; “places of public amusement” and other restrictions established by Executive Order 2020-69 and others; and

WHEREAS Michigan state-owned campground workers will commence preparation of state parks and campgrounds on May 15 and all state parks and campgrounds are due to open on June 22, 2020; and

WHEREAS the Covert Township Board, wishes to adhere to the governor’s orders and finds that it can permit a soft opening of the campground area of the Township Park and Campground for certain limited purposes which assure that it will not be a “place of public accommodation” as defined by the Michigan Governor; under rules that will reduce the risk of exposure; and which will, nevertheless allow access to the recreational advantages of the Covert Township Park and Campground, subject to adherence to these rules.

NOW THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

The Covert Township Park and Campground shall be opened for the 2020 calendar year on May 15, 2020 only for the following uses and activities:

- a. Only self-contained campers which have restroom and cooking facilities therein shall be permitted to be placed/stored and used at the park. Individuals occupying the self-contained campers shall only be a group of those living and/or domiciled together under the current “stay home/stay safe” orders of the Michigan Governor. No extended families and no groups of friends that are not otherwise domiciled together may occupy or have access to a self-contained camper. No one who is sick with COVID-19 or who was recently (within 14 days) exposed to COVID 19 shall be permitted on the premises; and
- b. Camp spaces shall be rented on a first-come first served basis to eligible camper groups. All regular campground rules, including the payment of campground fees; shall apply; and
- c. Individuals occupying the self-contained campers shall adhere to the following rules when not in their camper:
 - 1) Recommend the wearing of a mask when outside of the camper; and
 - 2) Adhere to the six-foot “social distancing” standard; and
 - 3) Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after using the toilet; before eating, after blowing nose, coughing or sneezing; and
 - 4) Do not enter any camper other than the one that was brought to the site by that individual or a member of that individual’s group; and

- 5) No outdoor camping or tents will be permitted; all sleeping and bathing; must take place within the camper; and
 - 6) No group sports activities such as soccer and baseball; shall be permitted, except for groups limited to those domiciled together; and
 - 7) Outdoor cooking/grilling shall be permitted on the camp space.
 - 8) Park Staff shall provide a list of these rules or a copy of this resolution to those entering the campground for camping purposes. Individual campers shall acknowledge their understanding of an adherence to these rules via signature.
- d. The restrooms, pavilion, and playground shall remain closed and shall not be occupied by or accessed by any person until further notice.
 - e. Beach access for walking and swimming shall be available only to those existing campers with self-contained camper on site and subject to these rules (mask, six-foot separation distance).
 - f. This resolution shall be effective until June 22, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. unless extended or rescinded earlier; or upon the rescission of a stay-home/stay safe executive order or the removal restrictions on places of public accommodation by the Michigan Governor. As of June 22, 2020 the Covert Township Park and Campground will be open for normal use, unless this resolution is extended or rescinded by action of this Board or rescission of the governor's orders at an earlier date.

All resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Motion was made by L. Taylor and seconded by D. Cook to adopt the foregoing Resolution.

Upon roll call vote the following voted "Aye":

D. Palgen

L. Taylor

W. Pritchard

D. Cook

The following voted "Nay":

K. Harrington

The following were absent:

None

The Supervisor declared the motion carried and the resolution duly adopted.

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing constitutes a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the Covert Township Board held on May 12, 2020; that the meeting was conducted and public notice of the meeting was given pursuant to and in compliance with the Michigan Open Meetings Act; that a quorum of the Board was present and voted in favor of the resolution; and that the minutes of the meeting will be or have been made available as required by the Open Meetings Act.

Daywi Cook, Clerk
Township of Covert
VanBuren County, Michigan