

FORD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING OF April 27, 2020
MEETING NUMBER 2020-14
COMMISSION CHAMBERS
3:30 PM.



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The Board of County Commissioners met in special session in the Commission Chambers at the Ford County Government Center.

Those present were:

Chris Boys, Chairman
Ken W. Snook, Commissioner
Shawn Tasset, Commissioner

J.D. Gilbert, County Administrator
Debbie Cox, County Clerk

Chairman Boys called the meeting to order. Dr. Shawn Fletcher led the group in prayer. Chairman Boys then led the group in the pledge of Allegiance.

County Administrator's Report

County Operations

Chairman Boys asked County Administrator J.D. Gilbert for an update status report and how to move forward. At the last meeting, the Administrator was asked to figure out the pulse on staff coming back to work. He has contacted the department heads; for the most part the department heads are ok with bringing their staff back. There are a few staff in every department worried about coming back to work. The questions today are. 1. Are we talking about just bringing the staff back to work? 2.

Opening up the building for all services to the public.

Commissioner Tasset asked for a rundown of the services we are providing now.

Sheriff office, Fire/EMS, HR, Landfill, Admin, Communications, and Health Department are all 100 percent operational. The Road and Bridge, Weeds are 50 percent operational. The reduced hours office are the Treasurer's office reduced hours no public, working mail and online. Deeds office work twice a week. The Clerk's office, Debbie is in every day. IT is 100 percent working from home and in office. Bringing employees back is not going to be an issue. There are employees that are high risk and we expect that. Commissioner Tasset stated he understands there will be some with issues but wants to make sure they are legitimate concerns. Mr. Gilbert stated there is a policy that will be addressing these concerns for employees that is next on the agenda from HR. Chairman Boys noted that May 3rd is the target date set by the state, this will be the date that things will change. Chairman Boys noted that we are testing a high number of people that is why our numbers are going up so much. Overall Ford County's COVID 19 cases are very mild. Ford County Treasurer Deb Pennington, asked for consideration for them to be able to process mail for the May 10th deadline. They will not be able to process the mail if building is opened to the public until maybe June. Sheriff Carr offered some of his staff to help with the mail.

Commissioner Tasset moved to bring full staff back at their regular hours Wednesday morning April 29, 2020. Commissioner Snook seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Personnel Policy: Covid-19

HR Director Pat Heeke presented for approval the COVID-19 Personnel Policy. This policy provides guidance, coordination of leave options and expectations for staff about COVID-19. This policy is following the Families First Coronavirus Response Act was signed into law, became effective April 1, 2020. Ford County Legal Counsel, Mr. Glenn Kerbs, has reviewed, and approved the policy for Ford County.

Chairman Boys moved to approve the Personnel Policy-COVID-19. Commissioner Tasset seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Human Resources: Tria Health Proposal

HR Director, Pat Heeke presented for approval Tria Health medication management agreement. This agreement is a cost and improved patient outcome platform to enhance the Benefit package. For \$5 per member, per month, they will guarantee 100% of the cost, for first year membership, in savings to medical claim costs. The county would cover the \$5.00 per employee. This is not a requirement for employees to use. It is voluntary. The employees will be able to keep their pharmacy.

Chairman Boys moved to approve the Tria Health Proposal as presented with the opportunity to look at the savings before approval next year. Commissioner Tasset seconded the motion.

Motion carried 3-0.

Mobile Device Stipend: Appraiser

HR Director Pat Heeke, is requesting the County Appraiser receive an \$80.00 mobile device stipend. The County Appraiser is working from home and needs to use her cell phone for work.

Commissioner Tasset moved to approve the \$80.00 mobile device stipend for the County Appraiser. Commissioner Snook seconded the motion. **Motion Carried 3-0.**

Commissioner Tasset stated Ms. Fink with EDF renewables; a Windfarm at Spearville contacted him. They would like to donate \$5,000.00 to the county to be used for COVID 19. If someone has suggestions to where that would be useful, please let him know and he will get that information to her.

Fire Chief Rob Boyd announced they received a donation of 480 N95 masks from Sunflower Electric from Garden City. He has sent half to the Hospital and the EMS has kept the other half. He wanted to thank Sunflower Electric for their donation.

Chairman Boys thanked Commissioner Tasset for taking Congressman Roger Marshall around to see the how the testing is being done for COVID-19. Commissioner Tasset stated that Congressman Marshall commended the County on the work that the County is doing to test for COVID 19. This has been the best he has seen on the work being done to combat it.

Commissioner Tasset moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:06 p.m. Commissioner Snook seconded the motion. **Motion carried 3-0**

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FORD COUNTY, KANSAS**

Chris Boys, Chairman

ATTEST:

Debbie Cox, County Clerk