

April 28, 2020  
Reno County Courthouse  
Hutchinson, Kansas

The Board of Reno County Commissioners held the agenda session via Zoom with, Chairman Ron Sellers, Commissioner Bob Bush and Commissioner Ron Hirst, County Administrator Randy Partington, County Counselor Joe O'Sullivan, and Minutes Clerk Cindy Martin, present.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance and a short sectarian prayer led by Pastor Henry Blickhahn, Our Redeemer Lutheran Church.

Health Department Director Nick Baldetti and Emergency Management Director Adam Weishaar gave a COVID-19 update. Mr. Baldetti reported statistics for COVID-19 for Kansas and the surrounding states along with local Reno County numbers.

Emergency Management Director Adam Weishaar gave a brief update on the COVID-19 timeline. He spoke on the stay at home order from the Governor not being extended past May 3rd. He stated that there will be a community testing site being sponsored. He said as they get information on the testing site it would be released to the public.

Mr. Baldetti said the Walmart testing site would be a nasal swab and reporting positive or negative for COVID-19 results would be sent to a private lab and back in a day or two. Testing will be from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. He said all COVID-19 testing should be free to everyone.

Mr. Baldetti also gave a brief overview of a working drafted document phasing the reopening of businesses safely and listed the dates of these five phases. He said we currently were in phase #1 and then went over phase #2 in depth.

The Board discussed guidelines for the industry, recommending following protocol for handwashing and leaving employers to determine wearing masks and other restrictions they may want to follow keeping the public safe. They talked about enforcement of the document.

Commissioners comments:

Commissioner Sellers commented on the packing plant virus cases. He thought the Governor had done a great job with COVID-19 and keeping the public safe and so had Reno County with no deaths reported from the virus. He wanted businesses to reopen safely.

Commissioner Bush spoke about the opportunity for the public joining in on zoom meetings and Planning & Zoning meetings being publicly recorded or done with zoom through IT.

Commissioner Hirst agreed with Mr. Bush on zoom for the public at the Courthouse and Planning & Zoning meetings. He was concerned about businesses reopening, noting who was essential versus non-essential having guidelines established.

County Administrator Randy Partington stated that IT had worked hard on zoom for agenda meetings and said Planning & Zoning could do zoom in Commission Chambers. Mr. Partington said he is working on bringing all the county staff back to work with some departments using face masks for next week at the Annex. He informed the Board that we may need to modify budgets for 2021. Sales tax amounts for February were \$11,000 down from last year's numbers. Expenditures across the county lower than normal in all departments.

**Mr. Hirst moved, seconded by Mr. Bush,** to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of the Accounts Payable Ledger for claims payable on May 1st, 2020 of \$300,449.44 and also consisting of pending Added, Abated and Escaped Taxation Change Orders numbered 2020-168, and 169 as submitted. Last on the consent agenda was a Kansas Department of Corrections-Juvenile Services FY2021 Prevention and Graduated Sanctions Block Grant application as presented by staff. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

At 9:55 the meeting adjourned until 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, May 5, 2020.

Approved:

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Chair, Board of Reno County Commissioners

(ATTEST)

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Reno County Clerk  
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Date