

Commissioner Meeting  
March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Chairman Paul Hodge called a special meeting of the Greenwood County Commissioners to order. Other members present were Paul Hodge, Chuck Spradlin, Ben Fox, Roy Ballard, Kathy Robison County Clerk and County Counselor Paul Dean.

A brief discussion regarding potential measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 ensued, following Kansas Governor Kelly's announcement to recommend the closing of all Kansas schools. Commissioner Chuck Spradlin asked Greenwood County Health Department nurse Vicki Ross, "How many test kits do we have?" Ross responded, "I don't have any." Vicki stated she was relying on the hospital for testing. Commissioner Spradlin then inquired about the number of test kits the hospital currently has. The response was that the hospital was not sure on the amount of actual kits, but that they had plenty of swabs. A brief discussion regarding schools and their ability to apply for an attendance waiver ensued.

Commissioner Fox made a motion to direct the Health Department to advise the schools to close for the week of March 16<sup>th</sup> through March 20<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Spradlin seconded the motion. The motion carried. Commissioners passed a resolution that was recommended by the County Health Department, to formally order the closure of schools within Greenwood County. The resolution was set to be signed at the Commission meeting on Monday.

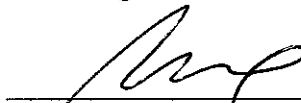
Emergency Preparedness Director Levi Vinson asked, "At what point, do we as a community, start putting things in action to limit gatherings?" Health Department Nurse Vicki Ross stated that she had already sent letters out to churches, libraries and senior centers to limit gatherings.

Sheriff Heath Samuels stated he would not shut down his lobby and he will continue to take calls. Samuels reported that he put a screening process in place for new inmates coming in, along with jail staff. Heath also reported he would not be screening the deputies; he would simply encourage them to stay out of the office. Heath told commissioners that they had started a new cleaning process daily; he had suspended the work release crews and all outside visitors and moved all attorney/client visits downstairs.

Commissioner Hodge asked Director of Nursing Becky Randall, "If you got a bad case, what would be the steps to try to save their life?" Randall responded there are no antibiotics to provide, they could only provide supportive care such as fluids and breathing treatments to help open airways. Randall stated, "the goal is to not treat social distancing as panic, but to treat it as a very smart way to slow down the spread, so that we have enough beds and staff to take care of the people that are going to need to be taken care of." Randall reported the hospital staff had gowns, gloves and masks to protect themselves against any potential viruses.

Commissioner Hodge made a motion to adjourn at 7:07 P.M. Commissioner Ben Fox seconded the motion. The motion carried.


  
Paul Hodge, Chairman

  
Ben Fox, Vice Chairman

ATTEST:   
Kathy Robison, County Clerk

  
Chuck Spradlin Member

  
Roy Ballard, Member

  
Robert Joe Morgan, Member