

Special Commission Meeting  
June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Chairman Paul Hodge called the special meeting of the Greenwood County Commissioners to order at 9:00 a.m. Other members present were Ben Fox, Roy Ballard, Robert Joe Morgan, Chuck Spradlin, Kathy Robison County Clerk and County Counselor Paul Dean.

Emergency Management Director Levi Vinson informed commissioners that Governor Kelly intends on signing an executive order on Thursday, requiring the use of face masks for people in public. Levi continued, telling the commission that the State Finance Council will vote yes or no. "There is a possibility, they can meet and override her and say that they're not going to allow her to enforce the executive order." If the Council agrees with Governor Kelly, the executive order will be put in effect at 12:01 a.m. on Friday July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020. Levi stated that, "The situation exists now that counties have the option to follow, not follow; it's entirely up to the county commission and board of health."

Health Department Nurse Vicki Lindsey-Ross told commissioners that there was a huge increase of COVID-19 in Oklahoma and Texas; and that Greenwood County sees a fair amount of traffic from those states. Lindsey-Ross continued, stating that she believes the county should recommend face masks in public, but that the County should not enforce the Governor's orders. Levi Vinson stated that the hospitalization rate 3 weeks ago was at 11.7%, today the rate is 11.4%. Commissioner Spradlin stated that he supports Lindsey-Ross' recommendation that the county should recommend masks, but not make it mandatory.

Greenwood County resident Bob Kimberlin expressed his concerns stating he believes we should follow the Governor's mandate.

Greenwood County resident Matt Wilson expressed his concerns stating his opinion is that COVID-19 is a "trivial" problem.

Commissioners agreed that we should continue with what the County is currently doing and wait to see the outcome of what the Governor's plans are. It will be up to the businesses and individuals to decide whether or not they want to wear or require masks. County Counselor Paul Dean recommended the county not take any action at this time. This issue will be discussed at a later date.

Commissioner Spradlin made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Ballard seconded the motion. The motion carried.

ATTEST: Kathy Robison  
Kathy Robison, County Clerk

Paul Hodge  
Paul Hodge, Chairman

Ben Fox  
Ben Fox, Vice Chairman

Chuck Spradlin  
Chuck Spradlin Member

Roy Ballard  
Roy Ballard, Member

Robert Joe Morgan  
Robert Joe Morgan, Member