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BOARD OF PEMBINA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS

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SPECIAL MEETING

April 28, 2020

1:00 PM

Board of Pembina County Commissioners met in special session at 1:00 PM in the Commissioners Meeting Room of the Courthouse with the following members present: Laverne Doyle, Nick Rutherford and Jim Benjaminson, in person and Hetty Walker and Hugh Ralston by telephone.

Chairman Ralston called the meeting to order.

Commission discussed extending the limited access procedures that were put in place on March 30, 2020. Considering Pembina County now has a positive case, and further testing is being completed in Pembina County, the Commission feels they should extend the limited access procedures. Julie Hardy, Public Health Director, feels it would be in the best interest of county employees and the public to remain on limited access. Motion made by Hetty Walker and seconded by Jim Benjaminson to extend the limited access procedures, following Order #2020-02.1 from the North Dakota Department of Health, until May 15, 2020, with the option to extend or cut off. Roll call vote: Laverne Doyle – yes; Jim Benjaminson – yes; Nick Rutherford – yes; Hetty Walker – yes. Motion carried.

Andrew Kirking, Emergency Manager, presented an extension to the Emergency Disaster Declaration, regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, effective through May 31, 2020. Motion made by Laverne Doyle and seconded by Jim Benjaminson to approve the Emergency Declaration Resolution as follows:

EMERGENCY DECLARATION

WHEREAS, the coronavirus (COVID-19) is a severe respiratory illness which has been found capable for spreading from person to person, thereby posing a threat to the health and safety of the residents of Pembina County; and

WHEREAS, no drug or vaccine is currently available to treat or prevent COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Governor of North Dakota issued Executive Order 2020-03 declaring a state of emergency within North Dakota in response to the public health crisis, pursuant to his constitutional and statutory authority; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota Century Code Chapter 37-17.1 contemplates that counties may declare an emergency, and state and local jurisdictions may work cooperatively to address emergency situations; and

WHEREAS, Pembina County may experience the presence of COVID-19 within our jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, healthcare providers and local government offices may be overwhelmed with requests beyond their normal capacity; and

WHEREAS, to reduce spread of the disease, private and public workers may be required to work from home per department of health recommendations;

BE IT RESOLVED that departments of Pembina County Government are authorized to implement actions and mitigation measures which, together with federal, state and other local agencies will limit the hardships and impacts related to COVID-19 upon Pembina County Citizens.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Declaration shall extend for a period of thirty (30) days from the date hereof, unless it is sooner amended or terminated by the Pembina County Board of Commissioners, but may also be extended for additional periods thereafter.

Executed at Cavalier, North Dakota, this 28th day of April, 2020.


_____, ^{vice} Chairman
Pembina County Commission

Attest:



Linda Schlittenhard, Auditor

Roll call vote: Laverne Doyle – yes; Jim Benjaminson – yes; Nick Rutherford – yes; Hetty Walker – yes. Motion carried.

Discussion followed on installing Plexiglas barriers in the reception areas of offices. The Clerk/Recorder's office contacted the Highway Department to see if they would be able to build these barriers. Devin Johnson, Highway Superintendent, said the highway would build the barriers but he is waiting for a price quote on the Plexiglas.

Motion made by Jim Benjaminson and seconded by Hetty Walker to adjourn the meeting. All voting in favor; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 1:30 PM.

