

COMMITTEE: COVID-19
DATE: THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2020
TIME: 10:00 A.M.
PLACE: FOREST COUNTY BOARD ROOM

CALL TO ORDER

Gretzinger called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and read the agenda.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Gretzinger, Chaney, Lukas, Stamper, Shepard, Theune & Matuszewski

Absent:

Others present: John Dennee, Josh Bradley, Cheri Collins, Tammy Queen, Penny Carter, Shannon Boney, Christy Conley, as well as others by Go-To Meeting.

APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Chaney to approve the agenda as presented, second by Stamper. All present voting (AYE). Motion carried.

APPROVE MINUTES FROM THE MAY 14, 2020 MEETING

Motion by Lukas to approve the minutes, second by Chaney. All present voting (AYE). Motion carried.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE COUNTY COVID-19 RESPONSE POLICY FOR FOREST COUNTY

Shepard brought up the travel policy and a possible health check policy for employees to fill out and turn in with payroll every two weeks.

Motion by Chaney to lift the travel restrictions and have the employees fill out the self-assessment policy Shepard presented to the committee, second by Stamper. All present voting (AYE). Motion carried.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTOR UPDATES

There were quite a few questions on whether or not the offices could ask the public to wear masks. The District Attorney explained the Wisconsin Supreme Court is mandating all people coming into the court system to wear masks. Chaney told the committee the CVSO director is requiring anyone coming into his office to wear a mask. Shepard updated the committee on cases within Forest County:

- 353 – Tested
- 331 – Negative
- 10 - Pending
- 12- Positive
- 11 – in Isolation
- 1- released

There have been many questions on how to safely make graduation happen, and Shepard explained that any mass gatherings are still not recommended, but, cannot be enforced. Brush Run has an 8- page plan to still have the June Brush Run. Shepard could write an order to put in place, but, it would have to be followed by a County Board Ordinance, which would not have any criminal charges attached to it. An ordinance to prohibit larger gatherings would encompass all gatherings which would include weddings, funerals and any public events which would make it difficult for officers to enforce.

Shepard is also looking for direction from Corporation Counsel for some talking points that would help when the Public has questions.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR UPDATES

Theune has another shipment of supplies coming in next week that he personally ordered. The committee asked him about reimbursement for COVID-19 and he explained he sent out an email to have departments send all costs associated with this to him. He will scan all invoices in for reimbursement. He told the committee the County falls under state and federal funding now because of the Presidents declaration, which means the County can get reimbursed for anything related to COVID-19.

UPDATE ON TRI-COUNTY COMMITTEE – POSSIBLE ACTION ON PLAN FOR RE-OPENING IN LETTER FORM TO BE FORWARDED TO GOVERNOR EVERS
Gretzinger explained the idea is probably mute because of the Safer-at-Home order being lifted and she has not heard back from the chair of that committee.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION WITH DEPARTMENT HEADS ON WORK FROM HOME POLICY

There was discussion on the Work from Home policy. The District Attorney was present and explained he has an employee who is a high risk and still working from home at this time. He told the committee the Supreme Court is asking to have employees separated to make sure the offices remain open. Gretzinger explained since the Safer-at-Home order expired, the employees should return to work on May 26th. Should employees who have medical conditions fall under the County FMLA policy? The clerk will check with the labor attorney on employees with medical conditions and whether the employee has to supply something to the county for proof of underlying health conditions. Along with finding out if an underlying condition keeps someone from returning to work, the department head would have to determine if there is enough work that can be done from home to extend the work from home policy and if not does it then become an FMLA issue.

Motion by Stamper to get documentation from employees with underlying conditions as soon as possible, second by Lukas. All present voting (AYE). Motion carried. Clerk will look into the legality of all this before anything is done.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND SETTING DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

- Emergency Director – Updates
- Public Health Director – Updates
- Employee Work Policy
- June 4th, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, motion by Chaney to adjourn, second by Lukas. All present voting AYE. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:16 a.m.