

PENNINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Special Meeting of March 27, 2020

The Pennington County Board of Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, March 27, 2020, in the Commission Chambers in the County Administration Building, Rapid City, South Dakota. Chair Deb Hadcock called the meeting to order with the following Commissioners present: Mark DiSanto, Gary Drewes, Lloyd LaCroix and Ron Rossknecht.

REVIEW AND APPROVE AGENDA

MOVED by LaCroix and seconded by Drewes to approve the agenda as presented with moving Item 7 up first which will be followed by an update from Commissioner LaCroix on the Youth Council Update. Vote: Unanimous.

UPDATE FROM THE CITY OF RAPID CITY

YOUTH COUNCIL UPDATE

ITEMS FROM EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

A. COVID-19 UPDATE

UPDATE FROM THE CENTRAL STATE FAIR

RESOLUTION FOR HOURS OF OPERATION FOR COUNTY OFFICES: MOVED by Rossknecht and seconded by DiSanto to approve the Resolution to Set Hours of Operation for County Offices. Vote: Unanimous.

**PENNINGTON COUNTY RESOLUTION
A RESOLUTION TO SET HOURS OF OPERATION FOR COUNTY OFFICES
ESTABLISHED BY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND DECLARING AN
EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, SDCL § 7-7-2 requires the Board of County Commissioners to, by resolution, establish the hours of operation for each county government department and office, except for the offices of the Sheriff and State's Attorney; and

WHEREAS, SDCL § 7-7-2.1. states the Chair of the Board of County Commissioners may close the courthouse in case of emergency or severe weather. The public shall be adequately notified. An emergency for the purpose of this section is an unforeseen occurrence or combination of circumstances that calls for immediate action or remedy; and

WHEREAS, Pennington County Administration is not housed in the Pennington County Courthouse. The Presiding Judge of the 7th Judicial Circuit communicates with Emergency Management Staff in the closing of the Courthouse when an emergency or severe weather circumstances exist. The Chair of the Board of County Commissioners reserves the right to close County Offices in the event of emergency or severe weather; and

PENNINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Special Meeting of March 27, 2020

WHEREAS, an outbreak of the disease COVID-19, which is caused by the novel coronavirus and is transmitted by person-to-person spread or contact with contaminated surfaces, has been confirmed in more than 100 countries, including the United States and specifically in the State of South Dakota; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization (WHO), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services have declared the outbreak of COVID-19 as a public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020 Governor Kristi Noem, issued Executive Order 2020-04 which declared a state of emergency to exist in the State of South Dakota in response to the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the CDC and health experts have recommended social distancing to slow the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020 Governor Kristi Noem recommended, through Executive Order 2020-05, that local governments implement employee arrangements designed to reduce the likelihood of spreading the disease; and

WHEREAS, the failure to successfully implement social distancing will likely result in higher numbers of infected individuals and has the potential to overwhelm the capacity of local health care providers; and

WHEREAS, it is important that control measures be taken to reduce or slow down the spread of COVID-19 in order to protect the health and safety of Pennington County residents; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Pennington County Board of Commissioners that the **County Administration Building** (*Located at 130 Kansas City Street, Rapid City, SD*) shall be restricted to the public beginning Monday March 30, 2020 at 8:00 a.m.; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that members of the public may still transact business with county offices by appointment. The public is encouraged to conduct as much business as possible on-line, by phone or by mail; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution is deemed necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, and as an emergency measure this resolution shall become immediately effective upon approval.

NOTE: The Pennington County website will provide information for the public from all county agencies for purposes of conducting business during this building closure. The website will be updated as information becomes available.

Dated this 27th day of March, 2020.

PENNINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Special Meeting of March 27, 2020

/s/Deb Hadcock, Chair
Pennington County Board of Commissioners

/s/Cindy Mohler
Pennington County Auditor

RESOLUTION TO ADDRESS A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS: MOVED by Drewes and seconded by Rossknecht to approve the Resolution to Address a Public Health Crisis. Vote: Unanimous.

**PENNINGTON COUNTY RESOLUTION
A RESOLUTION TO ADDRESS A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS BY RECOMMENDING
CERTAIN MEASURES TO SLOW THE COMMUNITY SPREAD OF CORONAVIRUS
(COVID-19) AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.**

Whereas, An outbreak of the severe respiratory disease, COVID-19, which is caused by and is transmitted by the person-to-person spread of the novel coronavirus, started in late 2019 and has currently been detected in more than 100 countries, including the United States; and,

Whereas, The World Health Organization has designated COVID-19 a pandemic, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has declared a public health emergency; and,

Whereas, The CDC has issued guidance to state and local governments and all citizens recommending steps to prevent community spread and guard against the COVID-19 outbreak; and,

Whereas, Governor Kristi Noem, through Executive Order 2020-04, declared South Dakota to be in a State of Emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic; and,

Whereas, Governor Kristi Noem, through Executive Order 2020-05, ordered and directed the recommendations contained in this Resolution to all South Dakotans; and

Whereas, The Pennington County Board of Commissioners support the order of Governor Noem in enforcing social distancing guidelines; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Pennington County Board of Commissioners that the citizens and businesses of Pennington County should do the following:

1. **Review and practice** the recommended CDC hygiene practices designed to stop the spread of the disease COVID-19 and encourage others to do so as well.
2. **Know** the signs and symptoms of COVID-19, call a health care provider if suffering symptoms in advance of a visit to a provider, and stay at home if sick.
3. **Understand** that those who are particularly vulnerable to COVID-19, including those over age 60 and those suffering from respiratory or cardiac conditions, should take extra precautions and remain home if possible.

PENNINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Special Meeting of March 27, 2020

4. **Implement** social distancing measures and support businesses who are adjusting their business model to reduce the spread of COVID-19.
5. **Assist** those who work in essential jobs such as emergency personnel, medical professionals, and law enforcement.

All employers, both for profit and not-for-profit, within Pennington County, outside of the exterior boundaries of an incorporated municipality, should:

6. **Implement** the recommended CDC hygiene practices and other business strategies designed to reduce the likelihood of spreading the disease.
7. **Understand** that the COVID-19 is not a short-term challenge, and operations will need to endure a difficult and limited social environment for potentially eight weeks or more.
8. **Innovate** and continue to demonstrate entrepreneurial excellence in their operations during this difficult and uncertain environment.
9. **Encourage** staff to telework if possible, implement social distancing measures, limit unnecessary work gatherings, limit non-essential travel, and consider regular health checks including CDC guidance for COVID-19 screening if possible.
10. **Offer**, to the extent possible, special shopping times or access periods for populations particularly vulnerable to COVID-19.

Any “enclosed retail business that promotes public gatherings” within Pennington County, outside of the exterior boundaries of an incorporated municipality, should:

11. **Suspend or modify** business practices as recommended by CDC guidance that involve ten or more people to be in an enclosed space where physical separation of at least six feet is not possible.
12. **Continue offering** or consider offering business models that do not involve public gatherings, including takeout, delivery, drive-through, curbside service, off-site services, social distancing models, or other innovative business practices that do not involve public gatherings in an enclosed space.
13. **Consider** business arrangements and innovative ideas intended to support the critical infrastructure sectors, as defined by the Department of Homeland Security.

For the purpose of sections 11 through 13, an “enclosed retail business that promotes public gatherings” means any enclosed facility operating as a bar, restaurant, brewery, cafe, casino, coffee shop, recreational or athletic facility, health club, or entertainment venue.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution is deemed necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, and as an emergency measure this resolution shall become immediately effective upon approval.

Dated this 27th day of March, 2020.

/s/Deb Hadcock, Chair
Pennington County Board of Commissioners

PENNINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Special Meeting of March 27, 2020

/s/Cindy Mohler
Pennington County Auditor

FAMILIES FIRST CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE ACT (HR 6201): PENNINGTON COUNTY POLICY

ANY AND ALL OTHER BUSINESS RELATED TO THE COVID-19 VIRUS

FUTURE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING DATE

A. **SET A SPECIAL MEETING**: MOVED by Rossknecht and seconded by LaCroix to set special meeting times for Friday's at 9:00 a.m. except for Friday, April 3rd, that time is set for 3:00 p.m. Vote: Unanimous.

ADJOURN

MOVED by DiSanto and seconded by LaCroix to adjourn the meeting. Vote: Unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 11:33 a.m.

/s/ Cindy Mohler, Auditor
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