

Wednesday, July 8, 2020
Special Meeting

The Deuel County Commissioners met in special session on Wednesday, July 8 at 5:00 p.m. in the Commission Room of the Courthouse. Those present were Commissioners Jaeger, Rhody, DeJong, Homan, and Kreutner. Also present was Auditor Mary Korth, State's Attorney John Knight, Emergency Manager Sheila Monnier, and Sheriff Borg and various County employees. The meeting began with the pledge of allegiance. 1) DeJong moved, seconded by Kreutner to approve the agenda as presented. All voted yes and the motion carried.

9:00 Emergency Management Director Sheila Monnier and Auditor Mary Korth

Due to the growing concern of possible Covid-19 exposure in Deuel County, a special meeting was called to order by Chairman Gary Jaeger. On July 4th an individual who tested positive for the virus attended the Gary street dance and a press release gave guidance for all who attended the dance during that time. There were some County employees who attended the dance. In regards to public health and the health of County employees, steps were taken to make sure those employees were quarantined. Many employees are questioning pay for their quarantine which led to several questions and discussion.

State's Attorney John Knight said payment should follow the State law. Sheriff Borg had questions because the Sheriff's Office personnel are often exposed. Borg feels there will be a real problem if people are quarantined. Discussion was held after research on State recommendations to return those employees back to work under strict social distancing and other protective measures. Knight examined the SD Public Health and CDC recommendations which described different levels of exposure and risks. Discussion was held on those that have symptoms and those that do not. Many questions arose on policy.

Discussion was held on travel outside the State or a mileage radius of the County. Low risk activities vs high risk activities were discussed. Deuel County will follow CDC guidelines and SD Department of Public Health on exposure, potential exposure, pay for Covid illness and/or quarantine. Deuel County is asking employees who travel to be responsible and use common sense. Low risk vs high risk (including air travel and participating in large group events) will be dealt with on a case by case basis. Knight will be working on a detailed resolution for Deuel County employees to follow and the Commissioners will approve by teleconference this week.

There being no further business 2) Rhody moved, seconded by Kreutner to adjourn.

FRIDAY JULY 10, 2020 The Commissioners made a decision over teleconference on the above and moved to approve a resolution.

3) DeJong moved, seconded by Kreutner to approve and sign Resolution #20-22 "A Resolution Adopting A Policy Regarding the Covid 19 Pandemic" which reads as follows with the exception of "Exhibit A" (for publishing purposes only) in the second paragraph, last sentence (Exhibit A is on file at the Auditor's Office):

RESOLUTION #20-22

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A POLICY REGARDING THE COVID 19 PANDEMIC

WHEREAS, the Deuel County Board of County Commissioners have determined that it is appropriate to adopt a policy to address certain issues that have or are expected to arise regarding employees who have been exposed or potentially exposed to the Covid 19 virus and to provide further direction to employees to assist them in avoiding exposure.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Deuel County Board of County Commissioners that Deuel County hereby adopts and implements the recommendations of the South Dakota Department of Health, including the South Dakota Back to Work Plan for guidance to its employees regarding precautions that should be taken to avoid exposure to the Covid 19 virus; steps that employees must take if they have been potentially exposed to someone who has tested positive for the Covid 19 virus; steps that an employee must take if they have been exposed to someone who has been in close contact with a person who has tested positive for the Covid 19 virus; steps that must be taken if an employee has been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for the Covid 19 virus; and steps that must be taken if an employee has tested positive for the Covid 19 virus. A copy of the current recommendations are attached hereto and marked "Exhibit A".

THEREFORE IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED by the Deuel County Board of County Commissioners that Deuel County hereby adopts the United States Center For Disease Control (CDC) and South Dakota Department of Health recommendations for employees who travel outside the state of South Dakota and/or to areas that have been designated as high risk because of the number of positive Covid 19 cases.

THEREFORE IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED by the Deuel County Board of County Commissioners that Deuel County employees who are required to miss work due to the Covid 19 virus/pandemic shall be compensated as required by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act adopted by the United States Congress and signed into law on March 27, 2020, the Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act (EPSLA) and the Emergency Family and Medical Leave Expansion Act and for each as they may be amended from time to time.

THEREFORE IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that Deuel County Board of County Commissioners recognizes that the circumstances regarding the Covid 19 pandemic and the necessary response thereto are by their nature fluid and may change rapidly. Therefore, in is the intent of this resolution that as the circumstances change and the recommendations of the South Dakota Department of Health referred to above change, Deuel Counties and its employees shall continue to follow the updated guidance and recommendations.

Dated this 10th day of July, 2020.

Deuel County Board of Commissioners

Attest:

Mary Korth, County Auditor

By: _____
Gary Jaeger, Chairman

A verbal vote was taken by roll call. DeJong yea, Jaeger yea, Kreutner yea, Homan yea, Rhody yea.
Unanimous vote. Motion carried.
This concluded the teleconference.

Gary Jaeger, Chairman
Deuel County Commission

ATTEST:
Mary Korth
Deuel County Auditor
Published at the approximate cost of _____.