

March 18th, 2020
Antelope County Board of Commissioners
Neligh, Nebraska

The Antelope County Board of Commissioners convened in special emergency session on Wednesday, March 18th, 2020 at 4:34 PM in the County Commissioner's Room, Antelope County Courthouse Annex, Neligh, Nebraska. Meeting was called to order by Chairman Henery, with the following board members responding to roll call: Krebs, Smith, Pedersen and Henery. Commissioner Jacob absent. Chairman Henery stated that the open meeting laws are posted on the east wall of the Commissioner's room with more copies available at the County Clerk's Office.

The reason for the Emergency Meeting is to discuss Corona Virus and the COVID-19 outbreak. Brief notice of the meeting was given in advance by posting notice in three (3) places – Antelope County Courthouse, Neligh Post Office and Pinnacle Bank lobby, in addition to the Antelope County Website. Agenda was brief and shared with the Antelope County Board of Commissioners. There was approximately nine (9) office representatives in attendance

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Chairman Henery stated the reason of the meeting was discuss the latest recommendations of state and local authorities, public health agencies including the North Central District Health Department.

Discussion regarding recommendations from state and local authorities and public health agencies including Governor Ricketts. Various Counties have shared their plan in protecting their employees and the public. The latest recommendation is not to gather in groups larger than 10 and to limit exposure everywhere. For public and office protection exposure is to be limited. By locking Courthouse Doors and opening for by appointment only, we hope to encourage less public exposure.

Leave Policy – no action at this time. If there is a positive reading amongst County employees, the Commissioners believe it will be out of local hands.

Robert Moore, Sheriff acting as Emergency Manager has been working with Antelope Memorial Hospital to set up an overflow shelter – possibly at the Antelope County Ag Building. They have approximately 25 cots, in conjunction with Antelope Memorial Hospital they want to be ready to roll if the need should arise. Sheriff asked the Commissioners to utilize funds from the Law Enforcement Facility Fund for food and basic supplies initially. Hoping to utilize the items in/by the Law Enforcement Center if not needed during the outbreak.

Motion by Commissioner Krebs to lock the Courthouse to the general public and to make appointments to conduct business with the County Offices until deemed necessary by State and Local Officials; encourage the public to utilize online services; post all office numbers for easy access; Court Offices to follow recommendations as recommended by Seventh Judicial District. Motion seconded by Commissioner Pedersen. Voting aye: Pedersen, Smith, Krebs and Henery. Jacob absent. Nays none. Motion Carried.

PRESS RELEASE

Antelope County has made decisions regarding the safety, services, and organization within the County Courthouse. We will closely follow the Federal and State guidelines for controlling the COVID-19 virus. Please understand that these guidelines may change rapidly. We will do our best to communicate changes to the media as decisions are made.

Our goal is to serve our customers safely and efficiently. However, for the safety of the staff and the public, the following changes will be implemented on Thursday, March 19, 2020 until April 7th, 2020 or as deemed necessary by State/CDC Officials:

1. All walk-in members of the public will be limited to entry into the Courthouse by appointment only.
2. All customers will be required to call ahead and make an appointment with the specific office where they must conduct business.
3. All customers requiring services at the Courthouse will be required to enter the Courthouse through the South entrance (double doors). The parking lot will be reserved for visitors.
4. The County is strongly recommending the use of online services whenever possible.
5. Antelope County website www.antelopecounty.nebraska.gov
6. For Motor Vehicle and Driver's License renewals: <https://dmv.nebraska.gov>
7. For Real Estate and Personal Property tax payment go to: <https://nebraskataxesonline.us/> The Treasurer is requesting the public to call her office at 402-887-4247 or 402-887-4239 and they will gladly assist over the telephone if possible. Payments may be mailed or dropped in the drop box on the south side of the Courthouse.
8. County Court and District Court will continue as scheduled at this time. Please call prior to your scheduled Court time to verify if changes have been made since adjustments may occur rapidly. Both Court Offices will limit entry into Courtroom to only individuals who must appear.

Telephone numbers to contact Courthouse offices:

OFFICE	PHONE NUMBER		EMAIL
County Assessor	402-887-4515		assessor@antelopecounty.org
County Attorney	402-887-5151		attorney@antelopecounty.org
County Clerk	402-887-4410		clerk@antelopecounty.org
County Court	402-887-4650		linda.mitchell@nebraska.gov
Extension Office	402-887-5414		antelope-county@unl.edu
County Treasurer	402-887-4247		treasurer@antelopecounty.org
District Court	402-887-4508		judy.cole@nebraska.gov
Driver's Exam	402-887-9992	Wednesday only	
Register of Deeds	402-887-5006		clerk@antelopecounty.org
Veterans Service Officer	402-887-4936		veteran@antelopecounty.org
Zoning Administrator	402-887-4248	Tuesday	zoning@antelopecounty.org

There being nothing more to discuss.

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith seconded by Commissioner Pedersen to **adjourn**. Voting aye: Smith, Krebs, Pedersen and Henery. Jacob absent. Nays none. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 5:28 PM.

ANTELOPE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

By: _____
Chairman of the Board, Charlie Henery

Attest: _____
County Clerk, Lisa Payne