

**WILSON COUNTY, KANSAS
OFFICIAL MINUTES**

SPECIAL MEETING

July 6, 2020

The Board of County Commissioners, three members, Rhonda Willard, County Clerk and Kris Marple, County Coordinator, met in regular session at 10:00 a.m. in the Commission Room. There were also approximately 40 members of the public present.

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Lair called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION: Commissioner Miller gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Commissioner Lair led the flag salute.

AGENDA:

ACTION: A motion was made by Commissioner Scott to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER #20-52:

Commissioner Casey Lair, Chairman, stated that the purpose of this special meeting was to discuss Governor Laura Kelly's Executive Order #20-52, mandating individuals to wear masks or other face coverings in public. Due to the number of people in attendance, he asked if there was anyone uncomfortable that could not social distance, which no one expressed concern. He also informed that after consultation with Dr. Jennifer McKenney, County Health Officer, there would be an opportunity for public comment but warned that it would be in a civil manner or you would be asked to leave the meeting. He then asked Dr. McKenney to give her presentation.

Dr. McKenney presented a slide show highlighting COVID-19 statistics locally, state, and nationally. She also gave her interpretation of Executive Order 20-52.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Commissioner Lair asked if there was any comment from the public. Rick Cunningham, Susan John, Feyn Baker, Londa Tindle, Suzann Lemier, Jason John, Mark Baker, Tasha Willett, Chuck Farwell, and Josh Bissett all spoke against the mandate. Curtis Whitey spoke in favor of the mandate. Commissioner Lair asked if there was any further comment. There being none, he closed the portion of the meeting for public comment.

RESOLUTION #2020-007:

Commissioner Miller read to the public the drafted Resolution #2020-007 as follows:

A resolution regarding Governor of Kansas Executive Order #20-52

WHEREAS, on Friday, July 3, 2020 at 12:01 a.m. the Governor of Kansas Executive Order #20-52 mandating the use of face masks in all public areas became effective; and,

WHEREAS, Kansas law authorizes the Board of County Commissioners to issue orders relating to public health that include provisions that are less stringent than the provisions of an executive order effective statewide issued by the Governor; and,

WHEREAS, as of the date of this Resolution there have been 3 confirmed cases of COVID-19 Coronavirus in Wilson County; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners acting as the County Board of Health has consulted with the local health officer, and following such consultation concerning the implementation of the use of face masks, the Board has determined that the mandatory use of face masks in public is not necessary to protect the public health and safety of the county, but instead strongly recommend wearing face masks or other face coverings in public areas that social distancing cannot be obtained; and,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Wilson County, Kansas, sitting both as the Board of County Commissioners and as the County Board of Health, determines that the use of face masks in public is not required, but strongly recommended in Wilson County, Kansas.

Adopted on this 6th day of July, 2020 by the BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS and COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH OF WILSON COUNTY, KANSAS.

Following discussion by the Commissioners, a motion was made by Commissioner Miller to approve Resolution #2020-007 as presented. Commissioner Scott seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 10:55 a.m. a motion was made by Commissioner Miller to recess to Executive Session for 5 minutes to discuss matters of non-elected personnel pertaining to employee performance, pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319 with Dr. Jennifer McKenney, Destany Wheeler, and Kris Marple present. Commissioner Scott seconded the motion, and the motion carried. The regular session resumed at 11:00 a.m. with no action taken.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m. to reconvene on Wednesday, July 8, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
WILSON COUNTY, KANSAS**

Casey Lair, Chairman

ATTEST:

Rhonda Willard, County Clerk