

YUMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

October 9, 2020

Special Meeting Minutes¹

On October 9, 2020 at 2:00 p.m., the Yuma County Board of Commissioners met for a special meeting as members of the local Yuma County COVID Task Force. Chairman Dean Wingfield, Commissioner Robin Wiley, and Administrator Andrea Calhoon were present throughout the meeting with meeting members joining via teleconference. Also in attendance were various municipal and hospital officials as well as Northeast Colorado Health Department Director Trish McClain.

COVID Task Force – Hospital and public health representatives provided data on current local case counts and hospitalizations and reported on the recent spike in both counts currently being seen. McClain presented the current Northeast Colorado Health Department dashboard data including current local active case counts as well as the local positivity rate. McClain indicated increases in all metrics. McClain discussed current school closure information and ongoing plans and Jennifer Kramer of Wray Community District Hospital shared information on local sources of positive cases including both schools and businesses. Kramer discussed trends seen with respect to symptoms being experienced by local community members as well as efforts by the hospital to educate community members and challenges experienced in getting community members to work with Northeast Colorado Health in implementing follow-up measures.

The group discussed the status of the mitigation and containment plan submitted to the Department of Public Health and Environment on October 6. The plan has been acknowledged by the Department and the Task Force will continue forward with implementation of the plan unless other guidance is received from the State.

Also discussed were various follow-up updates to various previously submitted local event plans including community Halloween events and a potential Eckley Community Center fundraiser intended to be held in November. Commissioner Wiley provided updates received from other County Commissioners on cooperative work being conducted between counties and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment to improve the applicability of public health measures to rural and lower population counties. Kramer provided updates on new methods for contact tracing within schools to improve the applicability of quarantine measures to safely facilitate in-person learning.

McClain provided feedback on current public health recommendations for quarantine and methods for communicating information in an effective and implementable way. The group discussed how to educate individuals in quarantine and/or isolation adequately to ensure that disease spread is limited but so that mental health concerns are adequately addressed. McClain educated the group on the differences between isolation and quarantine and discussed resources for how to best implement isolation and quarantine protocols to various situations.

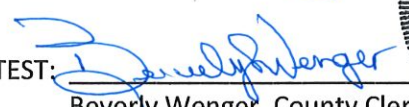
The meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m. The next COVID Task Force meeting will be set for the week of October 12, 2020 based on group availability.



Dean Wingfield, Chairman



Andrea Calhoon, Administrator

ATTEST: 

Beverly Wenger, County Clerk



¹ Minutes prepared by Andrea Calhoon are a summary of discussions, not a verbatim account.


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