

Carbon County Commissioners
Carbon County Courthouse
415 W. Pine St.
Rawlins, WY 82301

May 16, 2020

Regarding: COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

Dear Commissioners:

As you are aware, a public health emergency has been declared due to the COVID-19 virus pandemic. As of the writing of this letter, there are no known positive test results from Carbon County, Wyoming. However, this virus appears to have an incubation period of up to 14 days, or possibly longer. With widespread virus activity and disease, it is in all probability a matter of a very short time before it is established in our community.

In accordance with recommendations announced by the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention, and the State of Wyoming Health Officer, I recommend the following immediate actions:

- Closure of all schools and libraries
- Require all employees who are ill with typical symptoms to remain home and not come to work (typical symptoms include fever, cough, shortness of breath, runny nose, muscle and joint aches)
- Closure of Senior Centers for other than delivery meals
- Closure of all public swimming pools, hot tubs, gymnasiums, and geothermal features
- Cancelling all meetings or functions with more than 50 attendees (consider virtual meetings)
- Closure of any non-essential county offices, and allowing employees to work from home
- For any essential county offices, staff with the minimum number of required employees for essential functions, and allow any part of job duties that are possible to be performed remotely or home to be so
- For essential county offices and functions, consider having the public call in for everything possible, and utilize drop boxes if feasible to minimize person-person contact
- Employees over age 60, those on any immunosuppressive drugs including steroids, those with chronic lung disease, heart disease, or diabetes should be among the first to be sent home, as the COVID-19 virus has disproportionately adverse effects on this population

As this situation and the behavior of this viral pandemic are rapidly evolving, I encourage you to review guidelines established by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention and their website on COVID-19,

and the Wyoming Department of Health website, which largely mirrors that of the CDC. Please feel free to contact me with any additional questions, and I'll be happy to assist as needed.

Sincerely,

M. Wayne Couch II, MD