

**BUFFALO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
EMERGENCY MEETING
MARCH 13, 2020**

An Emergency meeting of the Buffalo County Board of Commissioners was held on Friday March 13, 2020. Vice Chairman Klein called the meeting to order at 3:30 P.M. The following Board members responded to roll call: Timothy Higgins, Ronald Loeffelholz, William McMullen, Sherry Morrow and Ivan Klein. Absent: Myron Kouba and Dennis Reiter. Vice Chairman Klein announced that in accordance with Section 84-1412 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes, a current copy of the Open Meetings Act is available for review.

Notice of the meeting was given to all members of the Board of Commissioners by telephone. Deputy County Clerk Heather Christensen took all proceedings hereinafter shown while said meeting was open to the public. County Attorney Shawn Eatherton and Deputy County Attorney Kari Fisk were present.

Vice Chairman Klein stated that the meeting was called as an emergency to discuss Buffalo County policies regarding COVID-19.

Sheriff Neil Miller, Register of Deeds Kellie John, Election Commissioner Lisa Poff, Facilities Director Steve Gaasch, Zoning Administrator Dennise Daniels and Board Administrator's Assistant Tricia Kretz were present.

Deputy County Attorney Kari Fisk reviewed the policies for the County to maintain standards of services to the public and efforts to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 exposure and infection towards employees and the public. Moved by Loeffelholz and seconded by Higgins to approve the temporary modifications to employment policies and procedures as presented to the Board by Deputy County Attorney Fisk with the following Resolution 2020-10. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Loeffelholz, Higgins, McMullen, Morrow and Klein. Absent: Kouba and Reiter. Motion declared carried.

RESOLUTION 2020-10

WHEREAS, Buffalo County strives to maintain our standards of excellent service to the public we serve, and

WHEREAS, to maintain our standard of service we must take reasonable efforts to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 exposure and infection towards our employees and the public, and

WHEREAS, we are unaware of the necessary duration of this risk, and

WHEREAS, we are remaining in contact with federal, state, and local officials to monitor ongoing needs, and

WHEREAS, we recognize our efforts to plan for potential impacts may need to be modified with little or no notice, and

WHEREAS, we recognize that our efforts may be superseded by federal, state, or local edict, court order, administrative order, or other legal requirements.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BUFFALO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS that temporary modifications to employment policies and procedures are hereby authorized as presented to the Board.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these policies may be further modified without Board action if modification becomes legally necessary. That the County Attorney's office is requested to monitor and modify these policies as required after appropriate consultation with relevant authorities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County may limit public access to facilities with little or no notice to the public. That this may include reduction or elimination in services available or in service hours.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County would like to encourage all citizens to limit unnecessary visits to public facilities and to encourage all citizens to conduct official government business by mail, phone, or online when practicably possible.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all elected officials are empowered to make reasonable and necessary modifications to operations without want of Board action. Further, that the Board Administrator or her designee are empowered to make all reasonable and necessary modifications to operations without want of Board action unless otherwise required by law.

Vice Chairman Klein declared the meeting adjourned at 4:03 P.M.