

March 17, 2020  
Unapproved Minutes  
Special Meeting  
Union County Commissioners

The Union County Board of Commissioners met in a special session March 17, 2020, at the Courthouse in Elk Point, SD at 9:00 a.m.

Members present Dailey, Joffer, Kimmel, Headid and Ustad.

Motion by Dailey, second by Headid to approve the agenda. Carried.

Motion by Kimmel, second by Joffer to approve the minutes from March 10, 2020. Carried.

The Commissioner board met in a special meeting to discuss the COVID-19 virus pandemic. All Union County Dept. Heads were present. Meeting moved to the basement. EMA Director Minihan and Union County Nurse updated the group. There will be a press release sent out to the media.

Motion by Headid, second by Dailey to have Sheriff Limoges hire 2 to 3 P-T temporary people to help cover the doors into the courthouse for people coming in for business. Carried

Motion by Joffer, second by Headid to approve Union County Emergency Declaration to authorize limited access to the Courthouse starting March 18, 2020 until further notice. Carried. Access to the Courthouse is through the Northeast doors.

Declaration is as follows: Union County has declared a public emergency in response to the COVID-19 virus. Please read the changes of status at the Union County Courthouse:

At a special meeting this morning (03-17-2020) the Union County Commissioners, along with department heads, met to discuss the Coronavirus epidemic. The discussion primarily concerned with steps we as a county could take to ensure the safety of our employees and citizens. The Coronavirus is spreading throughout the country with 10 cases now confirmed in South Dakota. The Commissioners have decided to eliminate any non-essential business at the courthouse and minimize the amount of interactions to prevent putting others at risk. Our main priority is the safety of all citizens and the employees of Union County.

Beginning at 8:30 am on March 18, 2020, Union County will limit the access to the Union County Courthouse to essential business only. We ask all citizens to first call the county office that you need to do business with and set an appointment BEFORE you arrive at the courthouse. At that time a determination will be made whether or not an appointment is warranted. This will be up to the discretion of the department heads. We ask the public to please conduct as much county business as possible through the mail, over the phone, or online. Again, please call ahead before arriving at the courthouse or Sheriff's Office.

The northeast courthouse door will remain open for entry and exit to the courthouse. However, there will be a staffed screening point set up at this door to determine final access into the courthouse. All other courthouse doors will be secured so that entry is only made through the northeast door. An employee of the department will then meet you at the screening table and escort you to their office for your appointment.

The Sheriff's Office will remain staffed at all times but will not conduct non-essential duties such as: fingerprinting, pistol permits, or other non-essential items or duties. First responders are taking extra precautions to ensure their safety as well. If you have any sort of emergency and someone is experiencing a cold, flu, or flu like symptoms, PLEASE NOTIFY US so we can take the necessary precaution to ensure the safety of our first responders.

When calling 911 in an emergency, you will be asked questions related to COVID-19. This information will be used to prepare all of the first responders so they can take any precautions necessary before arriving at the scene.

Union County may change this policy at anytime as conditions warrant.

Adjournment

Motion by Dailey, second by Headid to adjourn at 11:06 am. until March 24, 2020. Carried.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Jackie Sieverding, Auditor  
Union County

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Milton Ustad, Chairman  
Union County Board of Commissioners

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