

**Minutes of the Nebraska City Special Board of Health  
June 8, 2020  
Rowe Memorial Public Safety Complex**

The Nebraska City Board of Health (BOH) met in regular session inside the Rowe Memorial Public Safety Complex, 1518 Central Avenue, Nebraska City, NE via Zoom at 5:00 PM on Monday, June 8, 2020. Notice of the meeting was given in advance by posting in at least three public places, the designated method for giving notice, as shown by the Certificate of Posting Notice attached to these minutes. Availability of the agenda was communicated in advance to the media, the Mayor and BOH members of this proceeding and said meeting was open to the public.

Mayor Bryan Bequette called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM. The Mayor publicly stated to all in attendance that he required by law to inform the public that a copy the Open Meeting act is posted on the wall to your right as you come in the door of the Rowe Building Gary White Memorial room. This meeting is being recorded. If you are present and wish to speak please come to the podium and state your name, address, and speak directly towards the microphone the entire time you are addressing the Board. We're also conducting this meeting under Governor Ricketts Executive Order Number 20-04 Coronavirus Continued Limited Waiver of Public Meeting requirements as of May 19, 2020. This executive order allows us to conduct the meeting by video conference or teleconference and to do so we are using the zoom platform as published in our meeting notification. If you're in our zoom audience, please keep your microphone muted. For those who are wanting to comment, please do the following: for those joining us via the Zoom app, or through their computer please click on the "Raise Hand" button, for those joining us through the call-in feature, please press \*9 (star nine). This will notify our moderator, Andrew Snodgrass, there is a comment from one of our virtual attendees and he will let me know that you wish to speak. I will then have him unmute you. When you speak, please first state your name and address. You can find Executive Order 20-04 at [Governor.Nebraska.gov](http://Governor.Nebraska.gov).

Upon roll call the following answer present: Wendy Snodgrass, Gregg Goebel, and Dr. Brad Vasa via Zoom; David Lacy and Mayor Bryan Bequette in person. The following City Officials were present as well via Zoom and in person: Interim City Administrator Marty Stovall, City Attorney Drew Graham, Utilities Director Jeff Kohrs, Fire Chief Rob Schreiner, EMS Director Andrew Snodgrass, City Council members, Gloria Glover and Patrick Wehling as well as Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Patricia Moore.

Mayor Bequette noted there are 2 items on the agenda this afternoon. The 1<sup>st</sup> item of business is the approval of the BOH June 1, 2020 meeting minutes. Gregg Goebel moved to approve the meeting minutes of June 1, 2020 as provided. Mayor Bequette seconded the motion. With no further discussion, upon roll call the following voted YES. Dr. Brad Vasa, Gregg Goebel, David Lacy, Wendy Snodgrass, and Mayor Bryan Bequette. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

Mayor noted the 2<sup>nd</sup> item on the agenda is discussion/action regarding a status update on the CoVid-19 situation; potential tasks, logistical needs and communication. He noted, the director of the SE District Health Department, Grant Brueggemann is on; Grant would you please give us an update.

Brueggeman noted, currently there are 16,634 cases across the State and 188 fatalities have been reported. Within the Southeast Health District, which includes Otoe, Johnson, Pawnee, Nemaha, and Richardson Counties, we currently have 25 cases. We have 11 in Otoe County, 6 in Johnson County, 0 in Pawnee County, 4 in the Nemaha County, and 4 in Richardson County. The only other update he has is TestNebraska will be in Nebraska City on Wednesday (8-12 p.m.) and Thursday (4-8 p.m.) of this week.

Mayor Bryan Bequette asked of Brueggeman if the location remains the same; at the Street Department, 4<sup>th</sup> Corso, correct? Brueggeman replied yes.

Mayor Bryan Bequette further asked of Brueggeman on the numbers, the last 5 cases have been individual males and females in their 20s and teens. Are there any other contact or variable that seem linked that would basically drive any procedures or process or did they just happened to be in that same age group. Brueggeman believes just a coincidence and doesn't believe any variables are in play.

Mayor Bequette asked Dr. DeFreece to provide an update. Dr. DeFreece noted they seem to be doing pretty well, they have seen an increase in volume of the usual routine visits. Nothing much more to update. That said, with the additional cases reported in Otoe County, they have not seen any additional increases at CHI.

Mayor Bryan Bequette asked Dr. Vasa for updates. Dr. Vasa, City Physician, noted he hasn't heard of any new cases, at least that we've seen in our ER. He added, as people are starting to get out and about we are certainly at risk for new cases to pop up. Socially distancing, wearing masks, and following the guidelines is as important as ever. He further added he hasn't really seen anybody violating the socially distancing guidelines when he has been out and about; people seem to get it for the most part. Chief Lacy concurs.

Mayor Bryan Bequette asked Gregg Goebel of Emergency Management for an update. Gregg Goebel noted Iowa has 21,992 positive cases with 610 fatalities; Missouri has 14,734 was 819 fatalities; Kansas has 10,650 with 236 fatalities. He added the County Commissioners will be meeting in the morning to discuss the re-opening of the Courthouse and how that is going to look; he will forward out information to appropriate entities after decision.

Mayor Bequette asked Wendy Snodgrass (W. Snodgrass) if anything from the State. W. Snodgrass nothing they are going to start bringing people back into the offices; their planning that out.

Per prompt from Mayor Bequette, David Lacy noted status quo; they haven't received any complaints and the officers haven't served any complaints. People are trying to follow the rules as they can.

Mayor Bequette asked for updates from Marty Stovall. Stovall added things are status quo at City Hall. He added, he'll let the Park's Commissioner talk about the park details, baseball, and the pool.

Jeff Kohrs provided an update at the prompt of the Mayor. He added nothing new to report at this time. Still limited access at Utilities; working towards re-opening sometime in the future with safety in place.

Andrew Snodgrass (A. Snodgrass) provided an update per prompt of Mayor Bequette. He noted status quo; adding the run volume is going back to a normal area. They are getting into a new rhythm and pattern and seeing where the month takes them. Hopefully they can change some of their restrictions on their PPE usage and other things as things open up.

Mayor Bryan Bequette asked Commissioner Wehling to provide an update for the Parks. Wehling noted nothing has really changed; the pool is still working on plans to be open on Monday and baseball/softball teams have started their practices (coaches have done a great job getting all their ducks in a row). They still need the umpire forms to come in by the 18<sup>th</sup>. In addition, they are working

on the options of opening up the playground equipment; they are trying to figure out how that will work best for the City. They will be discussing same at the next City Council meeting.

Mayor Bequette moved to pending tasks noting he is not aware of anything and that we don't need to issue any of our own directives. He did add he has had a couple of businesses call him and ask about them opening; he advised if they adhere to the DHM, the City is good with it. He appreciated them calling ahead of time.

Mayor Bequette asked A. Snodgrass if anything on logistics. A. Snodgrass noted nothing other than to advise the masks he was concerned about last week should arrive this week.

Mayor Bequette asked if any concerns of other departments on logistics. Marty Stovall noted he just wanted to clarify; testing is going to be this Wednesday (8-12) and Thursday (4-8), correct? Grant Brueggeman noted that is correct. Commissioner Wehling asked of Brueggeman if there was any way respectfully in the future if we could get a heads up sooner for the testing. Brueggeman replied absolutely. He added he tries to give as much as he can; he advised Thursday afternoon he got word; Goebel added that is correct.

Mayor Bequette stated he did read in the news that some of this testing might be more of TestNebraska folks; has it opened up? He asked for those being tested, they are not necessarily referred due to symptoms.... Brueggeman advises that's correct. His understanding besides Sarpy County, Douglas County, and Lancaster County, testing has opened up to more of the general public; however they still have to schedule an appointment through testnebraska.com. Bequette asked if Brueggeman has any idea on what kind of volume they are looking at? Per a few hours ago, it showed 40 appointments for Wednesday and 21-22 for Thursday evening. Mayor Bequette asked would they be able to handle everybody that came (250-300) or is there a limit on the number? Brueggeman added he didn't know if there was a limit but judging from last time, the guards were able to test 75 people the 1<sup>st</sup> hour. Moreover, they have a significant capacity and plenty of opportunity for people to be tested. Brueggeman encourages anyone who wants to be tested to do so especially with the public/free opportunities while they are available.

Mayor Bequette noted for communications, he knows Gregg is still running the Unified Command on Tuesday mornings at 9 or 9:30 depending on the County Commissioners meeting cycle. Gregg reiterated the agenda for County Commissioners should be short tomorrow so unified command meeting would probably be at 9. Mayor Bequette advised he would be on B103 again at 9:00 a.m.; Wednesday afternoon is a League meeting, the Governor will not be on this week. Board of Health is scheduled to meet next Monday night at 5:00 p.m. followed by a Council meeting.

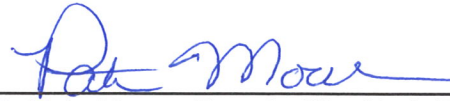
Prompted by Mayor Bequette, Rob Schreiner provided an update for the Fire Department. Rob noted no new updates.

Drew Graham added, from his personal experience, was doing the test. He filled out his weekly assessment with the 2 questions and was offered the opportunity to do the test. He would guess anybody who is filling out the test Nebraska assessments is going to be offered that opportunity if they wish.

W. Snodgrass asked the Mayor's thought on moving the meeting to every other week instead of every week. Mayor Bequette advised it is helpful to him if they move it just prior to the Council so

then if there is anything he can update the Council; asked if ok if they start after next Monday's meeting. W. Snodgrass noted it works for her.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:22 PM.



---

Patricia Moore, Deputy City Clerk-Treasurer