

**Minutes of the Nebraska City Board of Health  
August 31, 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 at 3:00 PM on Monday, August 31, 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 3:00 PM. The Mayor publicly stated to all in attendance that he is 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. If you are listening in via the zoom platform please keep your microphone muted; if you wish to make a comment, 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 (A. Snodgrass), there is a comment from one of our virtual attendees. When you speak please state your name and address.

Upon roll call the following answer present: Gregg Goebel, David Lacy, Dr. Brad Vasa, and Mayor Bryan Bequette. Wendy Snodgrass was not in attendance. The following City Officials were present as well via zoom and in person: Interim City Administrator Marty Stovall, City Attorney Drew Graham, EMS Director Andrew Snodgrass, and Finance Commissioner Gloria Glover.

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 August 17, 2020 meeting minutes. Dr. Brad Vasa moved to approve the meeting minutes of August 17, 2020 as provided. Gregg Goebel seconded the motion. With no further discussion, upon roll call the following voted YES. Dr. Brad Vasa, David Lacy, Greg Goebel, and Mayor Bryan Bequette. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Bequette 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 was unable to be on via Zoom, however, Stephanie Vinson, Healthcare Coalition Coordinator will provide the situation update instead.

Vinson noted the Southeast Health District which includes Johnson, Nemaha, Otoe, Pawnee, and Richardson Counties has 254 COVID cumulative cases with 2 deaths. Of the 254, Otoe County has 110 of those cases with 50 in the past 14 days. There is an uptick in community transmission which means sources cannot be identified.

Mayor Bequette asked for a hospital update from Dr. DeFreece. Dr. DeFreece noted they remain busy at the hospital in general. He advises the TestNebraska website is up and going and reiterates from the last meeting they will test at CHI on Wednesday's from 10-12 p.m. Potential drive up option as well. They are monitoring the number of cases but at this time no increase in hospitalization.

Mayor Bryan Bequette asked Dr. Vasa for updates. Dr. Vasa, City Physician, noted concern in spike of cases but nothing further to add.

Mayor Bryan Bequette asked Gregg Goebel of Emergency Management for an update. Gregg provided the update noting the cumulative positives for NE are 34,046 with 392 deaths; MO is at 83,655 with 1,508 deaths; IA is at 64,821 with 1115 deaths; KS is at 42,612 with 446 deaths.

Mayor Bequette asked Chief Lacy if he has anything new to report. David Lacy had no new updates but his officers do have concerns on the uptick of cases.

Per prompt of Mayor Bequette, A. Snodgrass noted no new updates for Fire or EMS.

Mayor Bequette asked Marty Stovall for an update from the City. Stovall advised the front glass at City Hall has now been installed. He further advised having an employee out from close contact; not from testing positive.

For Utilities, all individuals who were in quarantine are now back at work or will be in the near future.

Mayor Bequette asked question of Graham on whether there are any outstanding tasks. Graham noted the DHM has been extended through September 13; on September 14 we will move to Phase IV unless hospitalizations increase significantly. At Phase IV – all will be guidance. Discussion is had on capacity levels for indoor gatherings as well as outdoor gatherings. The detailed Outline of Changes to Upcoming DHMs Phase IV is provided through <http://dhhs.ne.gov/Documents/COVID-19-Outline-of-Changes-to-Upcoming-DHMs-Phase-IV.pdf>.

For logistics, A. Snodgrass added per prompt of Mayor Bequette, for the City side the Library has requested more supplies. He is hearing from one of his main vendors that medical grade gloves are on a 3 month back order.

Mayor Bequette prompted Amy Allgood, Executive Director of Nebraska City Tourism and Commerce (NCTC), to address the Board on the AppleJack festivities. Allgood introduced herself and advised AppleJack will now be over 4 weekends. 1<sup>st</sup> weekend will be the original weekend of September 19 & 20; 2<sup>nd</sup> - September 26 & 27; 3<sup>rd</sup> – October 3 & 4; 4<sup>th</sup> – October 10-11. There is a detailed plan of the events per weekend on the NCTC website at <http://gonebraskacity.com/festival/apple-jack-festival/>. Buses and the carnival have now been canceled and the restrooms will be cleaned daily. That said, further discussion is had on how the social distancing aspect will be implemented for the fun run, the parade, the bull riding event, as well as the car show. If the parade goes forward, all would like to see mask stations set up along the route for those who might not be able to social distance. For the car show, it was discussed on extending the route especially since there will not be a carnival to allow for more space between cars. They would like to see at least 8' between cars.

For the parade, Dr. Brad Vasa moved to make a motion to support the planning of the parade to move forward at this time; however, with the understanding his motion is based off of moving to Phase IV on September 14. Gregg Goebel seconded the motion. With no further discussion, upon roll call the following voted YES. Greg Goebel, David Lacy, Dr. Brad Vasa and Mayor Bryan Bequette. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

For communications, per prompt of Mayor Bequette, Goebel noted unified command will be at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday. Mayor Bequette advised the next BOH meeting will be Tuesday, September 8 due to Monday the 7<sup>th</sup> being a holiday.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:08 PM.



Patricia Moore, Deputy City Clerk-Treasurer