

The Traill County Commissioners came to order in **special session on April 15, 2020** at 1:00 p.m. with the following members via conference call: Eblen, Elliott, Nesvig, Young and Amb. Also, via conference call: Jim Johnson, Cole Short, Kim Jacobson, Heather Nygaard, Jody Schill, Marlene Eblen, Stacy Smelden, Carla Swanson, Ben Gates, Jim Murphy and Alyssa Short. Attending in person: Charlie Stock, Steve Hunt, Heather Hovey, Brenda Stallman and Glenda Haugen.

COVID-19 UPDATES: Ben Gates, Traill County Assistant DES gave the Unified Command weekly update to the board. In Traill County, only individuals with symptoms are being tested at this time. Highly recommend that all residents should be wearing face coverings. Kim Jacobson, AVHSZ/Unified Command informed the board her department continues to provide services for our residents while working remotely. Brenda Stallman, Traill District Health updated numbers with 365 confirmed Coronavirus positive tests and 9 deaths. A mass testing was scheduled to be held in Hatton, however the State Health Department is having problems with equipment so it will be delayed.

FAMILIES FIRST CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE ACT POLICY: Heather Hovey, Chief Deputy Auditor presented the policy, which by federal law, will be in addition to Traill County's existing FMLA policy. Hovey explained that the second section of the policy was added to require documentation from employees should they need the emergency 80 hours of sick leave and/or the Expended FMLA time off for childcare purposes. Kim Jacobson requested to strike the "required documentation" section of the policy explaining it would cause undo stress on employees and more work for the medical field and feels it is in violation of the federal law. Charlie Stock agrees with Kim Jacobson and feels it should be removed. Tom Eblen referred to the federal U.S. Department of Labor documents on implementing regulations for the policy, in which it states "documentation" can be obtained. Hovey explained to protect the employees that continue to work, a medical certification should be obtained when the employee, using the emergency sick leave, wants to come back to work. Stock noted that the form used to document the requests needs some updating also. Eblen asked Jacobson, Stock, Hovey and Haugen to look at the policy and make revisions and bring back to the next COVID-19 meeting on April 22, 2020.

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p.m. to meet again on April 22, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.

Attest:

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Glenda Haugen, County Auditor

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Thomas Eblen, Chairman