

**Moffat County Board of Public Health
221 W Victory Way Suite 130 Craig, CO 81625**

April 21, 2020

In attendance: Ray Beck, Chair; Don Cook, Board Member; Donald Broom, Board Member; Erin Miller, Deputy Clerk & Recorder; Chris Nichols; (by phone) Olivia Scheele; Kari Ladrow; Mike Cochran; Dr. Brian Harrington; Jennifer Riley; Melody Villard

**Call to Order
Special County Board of Public Health Meeting**

1:30 pm

Beck called the special Board of Public Health meeting to order. The point of this meeting is to discuss transitioning out of the Stay at Home orders to get our economy back to work in a phased approach. Another meeting will be held tomorrow, Wednesday, April 22, with the Craig City Council, and another tentative BPH meeting has been set up for Thursday afternoon. Beck read an email from AGNC that outlined the Governor's press conference on Monday afternoon. The Governor discussed guidance for gradual resumption of business activity. The new program is called, "Safer at Home". Beck anticipates that the anchor institutions in our County will probably come up with their own plans. Templates from both Mesa and Eagle Counties (see attached) were available for review. A drive-through testing event will be held on Friday, April 24, 9-12:30 pm, at the Fire Department Training Facility on Industrial Avenue.

Dr. Harrington:

- Moffat County is in a good position for hospital preparedness, PPE's, etc. due to the low numbers of cases.
- Our test capacity has also improved; results can be available in 24-48 hours.
- Proper staffing for Contact Tracing and Isolation Orders.
- Three things will help bring this to an end: Antibody testing, treatment and vaccine.
- Seven Categories of Concern:
 1. Disease prevalence is decreasing and low
 2. Health care system has the capacity to handle a surge of hospital patients if it occurs
 3. Adequate testing capacity to rapidly diagnose cases and aid in case contact tracing
 4. Public health staffing is adequate
 5. There is an effective treatment for the infection
 6. There is an antibody test available to determine if individuals have been previously infected and now immune
 7. There is an effective vaccine available, or enough people have been infected, to achieve a level of herd immunity to prevent continued transmission of the virus.

Kari Ladrow expressed concern about a surge occurring once things open back up. She asked if there was to be a surge, if there might be employees from Moffat County that would be available to help with the Contact Tracing process. Cook asked Chris Nichols if maybe a City employee might also be available. Ladrow explained what that process involves.

Beck commented that he feels that the Mesa County plan (as a template) is the place to begin, with modifications that will fit with Moffat County. Dr. Harrington said he feels like each individual business should be responsible for not only their employees, but their customers, too. A checklist could be developed for them to go by. Mike Cochran suggested also incorporating attachment B in the Eagle County plan, the Business Social Distancing Protocol. This document is a check list that can be adapted to each business and provides

guidelines so that businesses can go back into operation. Beck asked that Dr. Harrington's seven points of concern and a mission statement from Kari be included with this.

Phase I: **PHASE 1-**

Public gatherings

- Allow gatherings of no more than 10 people and maintain physical distancing whenever possible

The topic of funerals was discussed, with the suggestion of outdoor services only. Olivia emphasized that at this time, the Governor's order is no more than 10 people. In Phase II, 50 people or less will be allowed for Public Gatherings.

Businesses

- Encourage telework, wherever possible
- Practice 6 foot physical distancing
- Close common areas where employees are likely to congregate OR implement physical distance protocols
- Continue to limit or prohibit non-essential travel
- Consider return to work in phases as applicable (1/2 staff, if possible or applicable)
- Implement or maintain flexible sick leave policies and practices
- Consider accommodations for vulnerable populations

Retail, personal services, and restaurants (as applicable)

- Practicing 6 foot physical distancing
- Implement or continue early opening for high-risk populations
- Implement or maintain physical barriers for high-contact settings (e.g. cashiers)
- Utilize face cloth coverings for employees and contracted workers whose duties include close contact with members of the public
- Continue curbside services in businesses where it applies
- Close-down waiting areas
- Space tables and lines
- Implement no-touch payment, as appropriate
- Encourage all public to wear masks to enter retail businesses

Kari commented that she felt that Restaurants and Bars should be their own category, and that it would be hard to make an informed decision until they had results back from the testing event. For the non-essential businesses, personal responsibility to follow the guidelines is stressed.

Health Care

- Elective surgeries can resume (these were never halted in Moffat County under the original order)
- (Add) Dental (w/precautions)
- (Add) Vision (w/precautions)

Recreation (Outdoor- personal responsibility of participants/Interior – Business needs to come up with a plan)

- Maintain physical distancing in outdoor settings (6ft for hikers, 15ft for runners/bikers)
- Open outdoor recreation facilities where adequate controls can be implemented to ensure physical distancing

- Limit gatherings to no more than 10 people
- Maintain restrictions and cleaning guidelines for restrooms

Education (Business/Institution needs to come up with a plan)

- Open in-person learning for specific settings (e.g. technical college)
- Limit classrooms to no more than 10 people
- Maintain 6 foot physical distancing in classrooms

Considerations: (Indoor events vs Outdoor events)

- Large venues (movie theaters, sporting venues, places of worship) can operate IF strict physical distancing practices are possible
- Gyms can open IF strict physical distancing and cleaning practices are possible
- Businesses and recreation facilities NOT permitted to open in this phase will be based on epidemiological evidence of risk for transmission, populations that may be at higher risk for severe disease, and inability to meet the limitations on size of gatherings or congregations

Chris Nichols asked for some additional clarification on this category. What threshold is going to invoke Phase II? He feels like it will give the community hope if we can put some definite timelines out there. Beck reminded everyone that the plan is always susceptible to change.

Ongoing Prohibitions:

- Services to high-risk populations
- Visitation to hospitals and senior living facilities
- Schools and organized youth activities that are currently closed
- Bars

There was discussion about outdoor concerts and the annual larger events.

Phase II: (much like phase I with more flexibility)

Public gatherings

- Allow gatherings of maximum 50 people and maintain physical distancing whenever possible

Businesses

- Non-essential travel can resume
- Follow guidance for number of personnel in building based on square footage (based on fire code as the denominator)
- Maintain 6 foot physical distance in common areas where employees are likely to congregate.
- Consider accommodations for vulnerable populations

Retail settings:

- Maintain 6 foot physical distance in common areas where employees are likely to congregate.
- Gyms can remain open IF strict physical distancing practices are possible
- Grocery stores maintain phase 1 operations, but relax the face covering requirement

Education:

- Schools and organized youth activities can reopen

There was discussion that the schools portion would be up to the Governor and the State Department of Education. Dr. Harrington commented that he felt like Phase II would be made up of several sub-phases, things won't be happening at the same time.

Ongoing prohibitions:

- Services to high-risk populations
- Visitation to hospitals and senior living facilities

There was discussion about if Moffat County would need to ask for an exemption from the State; we might be ready to move to Phase II and the State wouldn't be. Cook commented that he felt like we should just concentrate on compiling a good, solid Phase I and go forward from there. Details of the Phase I document were finalized in preparation of the meeting on April 22.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm.

Meeting Adjourned

Submitted by: Erin Miller, Deputy County Clerk and Recorder

Approved by: 





Approved on: April 22, 2020

Attest by: Erin Miller

