

Medina County Coronavirus Update Meeting

Date: Tuesday, March 17, 2020

Time: 2:00pm-3:00pm

Location: Medina County Courtroom

Welcome and Introductions of Trish, Keith, and Judge Schuchart

Trish

- Introduction of case. Purpose of call is to provide up to date information. On the call and in courtroom were county and local officials, first responders (EMS, fire, county and local law enforcement), hospitals, health care clinics, school districts, long term care facilities, church representatives, businesses, and media. Approximately 80 people on call.
- Texas case counts given.
- Public Health information given- best defense for COVID-19 is proper hand washing and following precautions such as social distancing. Post handwashing signs at businesses, no touching of the face, disinfecting all surfaces, staying home if sick, no mass gatherings, no shaking hands, maintain distance of 3-6 ft from people, children to stay home instead of at parks or malls.
- Best resources with the most accurate information are [cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus), [dshs/coronavirus](https://www.dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus) and [medinacountytx.org](https://www.medinacountytx.org).
- Health care system- Do not go to ER unless it is emergent. Call ahead to your PCP if you have flu like symptoms or if you have come in contact with a person with COVID-19. Long-term care facilities are implementing strict guidelines for visitors.
- Taking care of elderly to ensure medications, groceries, supplies are provided so they don't have to go out to get them.
- Testing- Quest and Labcorp, physicians to follow guidelines for PUI. We are hoping to provide more information regarding drive throughs which will take pressure off clinics and hospitals who do not have enough supplies (PPE) to test.

Keith

- Drive through testing available for health care workers and first responders in San Antonio. Testing to expand in the coming days for general public who have a doctor's order to test but no more information on that at this time.
- PPE- National Disaster-SNS/STRAC prioritizing supplies because supply is limited. Health care workers will need to continue looking for supplies. N95 masks are recommend and is the mask of choice however surgical masks are acceptable to use if that is all you have. COVID-19 spreads through droplets so other PPE needed are gowns, gloves, and face shields that cover the sides of the face as well. County is limited with PPE for first responders.
- School districts extended closing for an additional week.
- Dispatch protocol- screening- EMS response

Judge

- Reiterated testing and supply of PPE. Travel related case in Medina County self-quarantined. Updates with COVID-19 are changing hourly.

Q&A

David Lynch- had concerns from his workers regarding picking up debris such as beds or other items. Trish recommended gloves be used if their judgement called for them to use gloves but the risk for them is low.

Ann Harwood (KCWM)- wanted to make a statement to let schools/businesses know to call and let her know of any closures so she could let the public know through radio station. Provided contact number (830)741-5296 (KCWM) and (210)225-7653 (cell)

JP Bruhn- Questioned how students can get internet to do school assignments? Should they call public libraries? Kim Davis (city manager)- had no answer regarding libraries being open. Dr. Alex Flores with Natalia ISD on the call said they are beginning online and instructional packets and are distributing packets through bus routes. Keith suggested the libraries could have an outdoor wifi signal.

Lytle ISD- said they are doing the same with packets for younger students and online assignments for older students- hotspots on buses are in the works to park at different neighborhoods in Lytle.

Georjean Burnell (Methodist Health care ministries)- Methodist required her to do a survey for community needs. She requested supplies such as PPE, sanitizer/disinfectant, monetary donations.

Diane Cosgrove (Hondo Anvil Herald)- Questioned whether the second family member of the Medina county case was positive and what status was. Trish stated 2nd contact was in quarantine and DSHS was following protocol and checking in with that contact daily. Diane questioned if the second family member traveled as well or if this was person to person. Trish and Keith stated they could clarify that information.

East Medina Water supply- water is safe, there is no contamination in the water supply.

Yancey Water supply- in agreement that water supply is not contaminated.

Keith asked for information sharing

- City had no comment.
- Peg Nester (MRH infection control) said they were implementing distancing patients in the waiting rooms, screening, limiting visitors. She said they have not found a patient that meets criteria for testing at this time. She said distancing is defined as 6 ft away but in waiting rooms 3 ft is fine because droplets fall at 3ft.
- Georjean asked what the criteria was for testing so she could disseminate that information. Trish would email that criteria to her.
- Hondo Volunteer Fire Dept- had concerns regarding no PPE if they were to respond to an accident. Keith stated that PPE was limited but they should use every resource available (gloving, decontaminate)

- Trish confirmed Diane's question that second person was person to person and not travel related.
- Charles (HEB)- stated HEB is safe and is not closing down. Grocery will get restocked. Water in Medina County is safe, no need to buy water in bulk. He mentioned hours are from 8am-8pm to allow his partners to stock and rest. He stated HEB has their own emergency department so there was no need to panic.
- Keith- regarding city services-pay by drop box instead of getting out and going into lobby.
- Joyce McCormick (worship)- asking for guidance on keeping people away from congregating at churches. Judge said that this was a strong recommendation and that he can't force people to stop congregating but is hopeful that all will follow this recommendation and he is standing with the Governors decision to limit congregating.
- Keith shared county website and to register on i-info for emergency notifications.
- City of Hondo proclamation limits to 50 people.
- City Natalia- declaration also adopted plan for 50 or more not to congregate however if space is limited the number 50 has to be lessened.
- Diane Cosgrove (Hondo Anvil Herald)- shared if any school or businesses had closures to call her. She will have a space in the newspaper for all closures and will update periodically. She also asked if the food pantry was doing anything. Judge was requesting more information from them.
- Someone questioned whether second family member had been tested. Keith shared person has been tested and confirmed positive and is 10 days into their self-isolation.
- Bobby Tschirhart- treasury raffle is 1 month away and is questioning how long do we think this will go on. He expressed concern because fair association like many other businesses have booked things far ahead of time. Keith stated we don't not have that information, right now nobody has the answer to that. The President is saying possibly in August but things are changing so rapidly that we don't have the information for that.

Meeting/call ends at 3:00pm