

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF LANCASTER COUNTY, NEBRASKA

THE STATE OF NEBRASKA) MS20-13
))
) GENERAL ORDER RE
) COURTROOM ATTENDANCE
))
))
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Now on this 17th day of March 2020, the Court is carefully monitoring the evolving circumstances presented by the spread of the novel coronavirus and the COVID-19 disease.

WHEREAS, a public health emergency has been declared by the United States, and guidelines have been promulgated nationally by the Coronavirus Task Force and by the Governor of State of Nebraska, Pete Ricketts, limiting public gatherings to ten (10) people or less.

WHEREAS, public access to the Courts is vital to the operation of the judiciary.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that until further notice and unless otherwise ordered by the Court, simultaneous physical presence in the courtroom will be limited to no more than ten (10) persons, consisting of the judiciary and staff, lawyers and parties, and witnesses called into courtrooms only as needed. All other members of the public wishing to enter courtrooms must make a request and present medical test results no more than 24 hours old showing the person has been tested for the novel coronavirus with negative results.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED BY THE DISTRICT COURT that until further notice and unless and otherwise ordered by the Court, additional opportunity by members of the public and the media to observe courtroom proceedings will be made available upon request in advance to the Media Coordinator listed on the Supreme Court website.

Dated this 17th day of March, 2020.

BY THE COURTS:



Honorable Kevin R. McManaman, Presiding Judge

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF LANCASTER COUNTY, NEBRASKA**

**IN THE MATTER OF DECLARING A)
DISASTER OR EMERGENCY PURSUANT)
TO NEB. REV. STAT. § 81-829.50 IN)
RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC)**

DECLARATION No. D-20-0001

WHEREAS, Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-829.50 provides that a local emergency may be declared only by the principal executive officer of a local government who finds that conditions defined as a disaster or emergency exist or by a person who by resolution has been authorized and designated by the governing board of a local government to determine that an emergency within the scope of his or her authorization exists;

WHEREAS, for purposes of the Emergency Management Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 81-829.36 through 81-829.75 (“Act”), local government means a county, village, or city of any class;

WHEREAS, for purposes of the Act, an “Emergency” means any event or the imminent threat thereof causing serious damage, injury, or loss of life or property resulting from any natural or manmade cause which, in the determination of the person authorized by resolution by the governing board of a local government, requires immediate action to accomplish the purposes of the Act and to effectively respond to the event or threat of the event;

WHEREAS, for purposes of the Act, a “Disaster” means any event or the imminent threat thereof causing widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property resulting from any natural or manmade cause;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 22-155 and 23-101, the County of Lancaster is a county of the State of Nebraska;

WHEREAS, Neb. Rev. Stat. § 23-103 provides that the powers of a county as a body corporate or politic shall be exercised by a county board;

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Lancaster, Nebraska (“Board”) is

the governing board of the County of Lancaster, Nebraska (“County”);

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States of America declared the ongoing Coronavirus Disease 2019 (“COVID-19”) pandemic of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant an emergency declaration for all states, tribes, territories, and the District of Columbia pursuant to section 501 (b) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121-5207; and found and proclaimed that the COVID-19 outbreak in the United States constitutes a national emergency, beginning March 1, 2020, pursuant to sections 201 and 301 of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 *et seq.*) and consistent with section 1135 of the Social Security Act (SSA), as amended (42 U.S.C. 1320b-5);

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Governor of the State of Nebraska declared that a state of emergency exists within the State of Nebraska regarding the impacts of COVID-19 on the State of Nebraska, including the abilities of state and local governments to meet the needs of their citizens and respond to the pandemic;

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the Mayor of the City of Lincoln, Nebraska, declared an emergency to protect the residents of the City of Lincoln from the health threat arising out of the spread of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the Board finds that conditions defined as a Disaster or an Emergency exist in the County; and

WHEREAS, the Board therefore wishes to declare that a local emergency is occurring in the County as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF LANCASTER, NEBRASKA, DECLARES AS FOLLOWS:

1. The Board finds that the COVID-19 pandemic:
 - a. Constitutes an Emergency because it is causing serious damage, injury, or loss of life or property resulting from a natural or manmade cause which, in the determination of the Chair, requires immediate action to accomplish the purposes of the Act and to

effectively respond to the event; and

b. Constitutes a Disaster because it is causing widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property resulting from any natural or manmade cause.

2. Therefore, the Board hereby declares that a local emergency is occurring in the County as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

3. In order to effectively respond to this local emergency, the Board shall, as necessary:

a. Expend emergency funds from all available sources;

b. Invoke mutual aid agreements;

c. Apply to the State of Nebraska for assistance from the Governor's Emergency Fund and any other resources as deemed necessary; and

d. Take all other steps the Board deems necessary.

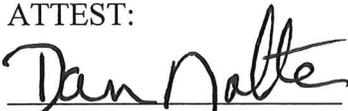
DATED this 17 day of March, 2020.

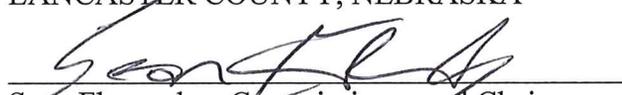
BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LANCASTER COUNTY, NEBRASKA

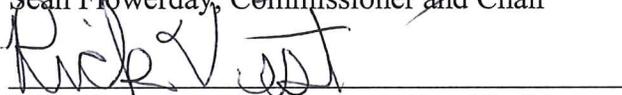
APPROVED AS TO FORM this 17 day of March, 2020.


For PATRICK F. CONDON
Lancaster County Attorney

ATTEST:


Dan Nolte
Lancaster County Clerk


Sean Flowerday, Commissioner and Chair


Rick Vest, Commissioner and Vice-Chair


Deb Schorr, Commissioner


Roma Amundson, Commissioner


Christa Yoakum, Commissioner