

The Barber County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) met this morning with the Emergency Management Coordinator, Health Department Administrator, and County Attorney for the purpose of discussion of the executive order 20-52 issued by Governor Laura Kelly requiring mask or other face coverings in public. After much discussion, the BOCC passed a resolution exempting Barber County from executive order 20-52. However BOCC, Health Department and Emergency Management will continue to stress the importance of social distancing and mask use as the most effective prevention actions for COVID-19 and will enhance the existing local public education campaign by Barber County Health Department and Barber County Emergency Management to continue to share the most current information with local businesses and citizens. Local citizens and businesses are highly encouraged to comply with Public Health recommendations as we move through this pandemic response. All businesses are strongly encouraged by the BOCC, Health Department and Emergency Management to make masks available for their workers and ensure adequate social distancing is maintained. All citizens should carry a mask with them for their personal use when adequate social distance cannot be maintained. The BOCC, Health Department and Emergency Management reserve the right to change course and tighten restrictions should additional cases within Barber County and the surrounding area warrant that action. The BOCC, Health Department and Emergency Management ask citizens to please be aware of surrounding county restrictions when traveling.

Barber County Commissioners along with the public Health, and Emergency Management continue to work together to provide a working document to be used to distribute to public as a guide to follow for the reopening of Barber County. Phases will continue to be evaluated upon case numbers. However, at this time Barber County Commissioners have decided to remain in Phase 3 as previously published and as written below until further notice.

Barber County Commissioners retains authority to impose any additional restrictions on activities and venues if an outbreak should occur.

Phase 3

ACTIVITIES NOT ALLOWED TO OPEN at this time.

- Large entertainment venues with capacity of 2,000 +

ACTIVITIES ALLOWED TO OPEN IF:

- All activities and venues can safely open and should:
- Maintain at least 6 feet of distance between individuals or groups.

- Follow fundamental cleaning and public health practices. Any additional sector specific best practices guidance from each are strongly encouraged.
- Avoid any instances in which more than 45 individuals are in one location and are unable to maintain 6 feet of distance with only infrequent or incidental moments of closer proximity. This does not limit the total occupancy of a facility, but requires that facilities limit mass gatherings in areas and instances in which physical distancing cannot be maintained, such as in entrances, lobbies, locker rooms, etc.

GENERAL PROVISIONS GUIDANCE FOR INDIVIDUALS

- **MASK ARE STRONGLY RECOMENDED:** Individuals may choose to wear cloth masks in public settings as appropriate.
- **Outdoor Activities:** When in public (e.g., parks, outdoor recreation areas, shopping areas), individuals (not including individuals who reside together) should maintain 6 feet of distance from others with only infrequent or incidental moments of closer proximity.
- **Social Gatherings:** Avoid socializing in person with groups of more than 45 individuals in both indoor and outdoor settings, especially in circumstances that do not allow for a physical distance of 6 feet or more between individuals or groups with only infrequent or incidental moments of closer proximity (e.g., receptions, trade shows).
- **High-Risk Individuals** include those with underlying medical conditions, including, chronic lung disease, asthma, heart conditions, severe obesity, chronic kidney disease, liver disease, or otherwise immunocompromised. High-risk individuals may resume public interactions but should practice physical distancing and minimize exposure to large social settings when precautionary measures may be difficult.
- **Travel:** Engage in nonessential travel but follow KDHE travel and quarantine guidelines for travel to high-risk areas.

All businesses can safely open and should:

- Maintain at least 6 feet of distance between consumers (individuals or groups). Restaurants or dining establishments may meet this requirement by using physical barriers sufficient to prevent virus spread between seated customers or groups of seated customers.
- Follow fundamental cleaning and public health practices as designated by KDHE. Businesses should follow industry specific guidelines as outlined on covid.ks.gov. Following additional best practices guidance from each business sector are strongly encouraged.
- Avoid any instances in which groups of more than 45 individuals are in one

location and are unable to maintain 6 feet of distance with only infrequent or incidental moments of closer proximity. This does not limit the total occupancy of a business, but requires that businesses limit mass gatherings in areas and instances in which physical distancing cannot be maintained such as in tables, entrances, lobbies, break rooms, checkout areas, etc.

SPECIFIC BUSINESS RESTRICTIONS

- K-12 facilities should continue to follow the guidelines of the Continuous Learning Plan developed by the Kansas State Department of Education. Districts with facilities in more than one county or city should follow any applicable directives issued by the county or city in which their district office is located.

GOVERNMENT OFFICE:

- May open if they can maintain at least 6 feet of distance between consumers (individuals). Government Offices will be using physical barriers sufficient to prevent virus spread between customers (individuals).

EMPLOYERS

- Telework: Employers may begin reducing telework and start bringing employees back to work in an office setting.
- On-site Operations: Avoid large gatherings of employees in groups of more than 45 where social distancing protocols cannot be maintained except for infrequent or incidental moments of closer proximity AND phase in employees on-site as possible while maintaining 6 feet of distance between employee workstations.
- Potentially Sick Employees: Any employees exhibiting symptoms should be required to stay at home and asked to call their health care provider.
- Business Travel: Engage in nonessential travel but follow KDHE travel and quarantine guidelines for travel to high-risk areas.

SENIOR LIVING FACILITIES, HOSPITALS, OR CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES:

- In person visits to these facilities may be gradually reinstated. Screening measures for all visitors can be continued. Those who must interact with residents must adhere to strict protocols regarding hygiene and screening.