

YUMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

May 6, 2021

Special Meeting Minutes¹

On May 6, 2021 at 2:30 p.m., the Yuma County Board of Commissioners met for a special meeting as members of the local Yuma County COVID Task Force. Commissioner Robin Wiley and Administrator Andrea Calhoon were present throughout the meeting with meeting members joining via teleconference. Also in attendance was Northeast Colorado Health Department Director Trish McClain as well as various municipal, hospital, and school district officials.

COVID Task Force – Northeast Colorado Health Department Director Trish McClain provided updates on county-wide statistics including school-age children and staff, county case counts, positivity rates, hospitalizations, and testing rates. Yuma County reports a decrease of new cases and positivity rates since last week and reports one hospitalization on the dashboard with one additional hospitalization expected to be listed soon. McClain reported on reporting changes at the State which created conflicting information and guidance for our local facilities including our nursing homes earlier in the week. Northeast Colorado Health Department has been advocating on behalf of the long-term care facility in Wray due to potentially inaccurately reported testing information and McClain reported strong partnership between the facility and the Health Department in resolving the issues. McClain also provided updates on vaccine distribution across the County and region including utilization of the State vaccine busses that have been in the region in recent weeks. Among topics discussed were vaccine availability for younger children and vaccination thresholds identified for the removal of the remaining public health restrictions.

Jennifer Kramer of Wray Community District Hospital provided facility updates including the following of 3 active cases and no hospitalizations since mid-April. Kramer reported that, based on demand, vaccine clinics are likely to be decreased to one day per week to avoid vaccine wastage. Kramer also reported that they have obtained an ultra-cold freezer so are able to store all vaccine types. WCDH expressed their appreciation to the Northeast Colorado Health Department for their assistance this week in resolving the confusion related to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment’s protocol changes that resulted in inaccurate testing result data.

Beth Saxton of Yuma District Hospital provided updates for their facility including the first hospitalization since March as well as positivity trends and vaccine administration trends. Saxton reported a decrease of vaccine demand similar to what is being reported in Wray including efforts to prevent vaccine wastage.

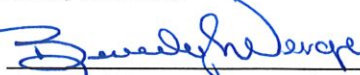
The administrators of the school districts provided updates for their respective districts. Levi Kramer of Wray School District reported two positive staff but no resulting student quarantines since the last meeting. Myles Johnson of Idalia reported no significant update from last week.

Commissioner Wiley reviewed the plans regarding the sub-committee designed to advocate for future summer and fall plans for upcoming challenges as guidance changes. The group also discussed any updates received by any group member regarding the disbursement of American Recovery Act funds.

The meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m. The next COVID Task Force meeting will be May 13, 2021 at 2:30 p.m.


Trent Bushner, Chairman


Andrea Calhoon, Administrator

ATTEST: 
Beverly Wenger, County Clerk



¹ Minutes prepared by Andrea Calhoon are a summary of discussions, not a verbatim account.


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