

RESOLUTION NO. 2020 -- 863

AN ORDER EXEMPTING COFFEY COUNTY, KANSAS FROM EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 20-68 (AN ORDER BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF KANSAS ESTABLISHING A FACE COVERING PROTOCOL)

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Kansas did on July 2, 2020 issue Executive Order No. 20-52, requiring masks or other face coverings in public, and said Order to become effective as of 12:01 a.m. on Friday, July 3, 2020;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 33 of Kansas HB 2016 and codified at K.S.A. 2020 Supp. 48-925(h), the Board of County Commissioners may issue an order relating to public health that includes provisions that are less stringent than the provisions of an executive order effective statewide issued by the Governor;

WHEREAS, on Monday July 6, 2020, the Board of County Commissioners signed an order "Exempting Coffey County, Kansas from the Requirement of Masks or Other Face Coverings in Public" in Resolution 2020-855 pursuant to Section 33 of Kansas HB 2016 and codified at K.S.A. 2020 Supp. 48-925(h);

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Kansas did on November 18, 2020 issue Executive Order No. 20-68, establishing a statewide face coverings protocol, and said Order to become effective as of 12:01 a.m. on Wednesday, November 25, 2020;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 33 of Kansas HB 2016 and codified at K.S.A. 2020 Supp. 48-925(h), and in lieu of following Executive Order No. 20-68, the Board of County Commissioners have decided to issue an order relating to public health that is less stringent than the provisions of Executive Order No. 20-68 effective statewide as issued by the Governor; and

WHEREAS, there have been two hundred and sixty-seven (267) total positive COVID-19 cases and currently twenty-four (24) active COVID-19 cases within Coffey County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED by the Board of County Commissioners, pursuant to the above authorities and findings, that the following rules will be in effect for Coffey County, effective at 12:01 a.m., Wednesday, November 25, 2020:

1. Resolution 2020-855 passed by the Board of County Commissioners on July 6, 2020 is hereby rescinded.

2. The Board has consulted with the local health officer concerning the requirement of the wearing of masks or other face coverings in public as mandated by Executive Order No. 20-68.

3. That after consultation with the local health officer, the Board of County Commissioners have determined that the implementation of the provisions contained within

Executive Order No. 20-68 requiring enforcement and mandating masks would be difficult, if not impossible and would be an unreasonable strain on county resources such as personal protective equipment (PPE).

4. The Board of County Commissioners find there is a broad range of recommendations other than the mandated mask wearing requirements set forth by the Governor in Executive Order 20-68 and that other measures related to the safety precautions and protocol necessary to fight the potential spread of COVID-19 better serve the local needs and interests and that the mandate and protocol as described within Executive Order No. 20-68 is not necessary.

5. The Board of Coffey County Commissioners find that opting out of the statewide executive order gives Coffey County flexibility going forward to make recommendations or mandates, if necessary, that best protect the health and safety of the citizens of Coffey County, Kansas.

6. As a result, the Board of Coffey County Commissioners recommend the following to meet the local needs related to the spread and mitigation of the spread of COVID-19 in Coffey County, Kansas:

a. Social Distancing:

- i. At the individual level, this means maintaining at least six-foot distance from other individuals.
- ii. At the group level, this means canceling mass gatherings where individuals will be in close contact with each other and cannot maintain that six-foot distance.

b. Infection Control Measures:

- i. Wash hands with soap and water for at least twenty (20) seconds as frequently as possible OR use at least 60% alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- ii. Cover coughs, sneeze into your sleeve or inner elbow and not into your hands or openly into the space around you.
- iii. Regularly clean high-touch surfaces and avoid shaking hands.

c. Wear a mask or face covering when:

- i. Inside public spaces.
- ii. In line to enter any indoor public space.
- iii. Obtaining services from the healthcare settings.

- d. All businesses or organizations in Coffey County may encourage employees, customers, visitors, members or members of the public to wear a face covering when:
- i. Employees are working in any space visited by customers or members of the public.
 - ii. Employees are working in any space where food is prepared and packaged for sale or distribution to others.
 - iii. Customers, members, visitors, or members of the public are in a facility managed by the business or organization; or
 - iv. Employees are in any room or enclosed area where other people are present and are unable to maintain a 6-foot distance.
- e. The Board of County Commissioners find that the need to quarantine is not necessary if both the positive COVID-19 person and the close contact are wearing face coverings and that a decision to quarantine is to be reviewed and decided at the discretion of disease investigation staff.
- f. This resolution shall be effective upon passage and shall be reviewed by the Commission on December 7, 2020, and every two weeks thereafter.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED by the Board of County Commissioners of Coffey County, Kansas that Coffey County is hereby exempt from the requirements of the face coverings protocol as set forth in Executive Order No. 20-68 issued by the Governor of the State of Kansas and as authorized under Section 33 of Kansas HB 2016 and codified at K.S.A. 2020 Supp. 48-925(h).

IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 20th **DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2020.**

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF COFFEY COUNTY, KANSAS**



ATTESTED:

Angie Kirchner
Angie Kirchner, County Clerk

Fred Rowley, Commissioner

Tom Hugunin
Tom Hugunin, Chairman

Don Meats
Don Meats, Commissioner

Robert Saueressig
Robert Saueressig, Commissioner

Tim Johnson
Tim Johnson, Commissioner