

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
GILPIN COUNTY, COLORADO

February 10, 2022

A special meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of Gilpin County was held on February 9, 2022, in an online format only; no in-person meeting was held. Chair Sandy Hollingsworth called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. In attendance were Chair Hollingsworth, Commissioner Linda Isenhart, Commissioner Web Sill, County Attorney Bradford Benning, and Deputy Clerk to the Board Sharon Cate.

Proposed Termination of Disaster Declaration. Emergency Manager Nathan Whittington recommended ending Gilpin County's COVID-19 Disaster Declaration, as it is no longer an emergency situation that requires emergency management. If there were a spike in the number of cases or a new variant surfaced or a disruption of the supply chain occurred, the County could reactivate the Declaration. Gilpin County has at-home tests and masks readily available, and the pandemic is moving to endemic status. Commissioner Isenhart thanked Nate for managing the County's response to COVID-19 for nearly 700 days. Commissioner Hollingsworth thanked Nate for acquiring \$2 million in funding to cover the County's COVID-19 response costs.

Commissioner Isenhart moved to rescind the countywide Disaster Declaration for COVID-19 response effective February 11, 2022, at 12:01 a.m. as recommended by Emergency Manager Nathan Whittington, with the understanding that if there is a rapid rise in COVID-19 cases, the action could be reversed. Commissioner Sill seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

Board of Health. Commissioner Isenhart moved to recess as the Board of County Commissioners and convene as the Board of Health. Commissioner Sill seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

Discussion of Masking Mandate, Public Health Order (PHO) #22-02. Public Health Coordinator Alisa Witt:

- The one-week positivity rate was 17.2% as of February 7, 2022, and down to 15.4% as of February 10, 2022.
- 15 confirmed and probable cases in the last seven days
- Zero new hospitalizations in the last seven days; no known new deaths in the last seven days
- All indicators are trending downward

Public Health Coordinator Alisa Witt recommended not having a mask mandate in place generally, but leaving it in place for healthcare settings, and watching for an uptick in case counts and positive test rates. She will work with Gilpin County RE-1 Superintendent Dave MacKenzie on communications between the school and the County.

Commissioner Isenhart moved to rescind PHO #22-02, effective immediately, with the caveat that it can be reinstated if the COVID-19 case numbers increase. After discussion, Commissioner Isenhart amended her motion as follows: to rescind PHO #22-02, effective the end of day on February 11, 2022, with the caveat that it can be reinstated if COVID increases, and includes giving discretion to County elected officials and department directors regarding masking policies based on circumstances in their work areas. Commissioner Sill seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0. County Attorney Benning noted that this action also rescinded PHO 22-01.

Board of County Commissioners. Commissioner Sill moved to adjourn as the Board of Health and reconvene as the Board of County Commissioners. Commissioner Isenhart seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

Public / Press Comment. Crystal Zeilbeck spoke about COVID-19 tests being provided at the school, and asked how to notify public health officials of positive results. Public Health Coordinator Alisa Witt said positive results should be reported to the state database, per the instructions on the test kit. The information is later sent to the appropriate county. Aaron P thanked the Board for rescinding the mask mandate at the school.

Adjourn to Executive Session. Commissioner Isenhart moved to adjourn into Executive Session as follows:

- For a conference with the County Attorney for the purpose of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(b)
- For the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and/or instructing negotiators, under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(e)
- For discussion of a personnel matter under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(f)(I)&(II) and not involving: any specific employees who have requested discussion of the matter in open session; any member of this body or any elected official; the appointment of any person to fill an office of this body or of an elected official; or personnel policies that do not require the discussion of matters personal to particular employees.

Commissioner Sill seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

There being no further business to come before the Board, they adjourned at 9:26 a.m.

Signed this 01st day of March 2022.