

Bluff Town Council Emergency Meeting

May 14, 2020

Bluff Community Center at 6:30 p.m.

190 N 3rd East P.O. Box 324

435-672-9990

Regular meetings are held the first three Tuesdays of every month at 6:00 p.m. at the Bluff Community Center.

Requests to be on the agenda may be submitted in writing to Ann Leppanen (ann@townofbluff.org) at least 4 days before the meeting. Agendas and minutes are posted at:

townofbluff.org and audio, in addition, at the Utah Public Notice Website

This meeting was held electronically on Google Hangouts.

Minutes

The meeting started at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call Mayor Ann K. Leppanen, Luanne Hook, Jim Sayers, Linda Sosa, Brant Murray

Leppanen received a request to comment from a Salt Lake Tribune reporter today about how the Governor would be moving risk guidelines from orange (moderate) risk to yellow (low) on Saturday. This was the first that she heard of it and declined to comment. She confirmed with Kirk Bengé, San Juan County Health Dept., that this was happening and the steps to ask the Governor's Office for a variance were the same as when the State went from red to orange. The letter needs to contain supporting data. She asked for comment from the Council members.

Murray said our area is more dangerous than many parts of Utah.

Sayers said whatever the outcome is we should continue to live as if we are in a red zone. Many people in our area have medical issues and cases keep climbing. If we loosen up there will be more health issues.

Hook said ask to stay red.

Sosa said agreed but noted red and orange are similar.

Leppanen noted the State went from red to orange May 1st. At that time the County had 126 positives, 12 hospitalized, and 2 deaths. Today, 8 days later, we have 154 positives, 18 hospitalized and 3 – 6 deaths, 3 is accurate but there are several unconfirmed. The Navajo Nation has 3245 positive cases and 103 deaths and remains under curfew until June 7th. She is comfortable with red. Murray agreed. Ginny Burns, who is the Food Panty director, was informed by her director in SLC that Food Banks will remain under red guidelines. Debbie Westfall supported remaining in the red zone, "I would like to see a 14-day decline in positive cases, before Bluff decides to move out of the red zone."

Murray motioned that a letter be written to Kirk Bengé asking to be allowed to remain in red until June 1st, Hook seconded and Leppanen, Hook, Murray, Sayers, and Sosa voted in favor.

Leppanen will write the letter and circulate it to the Council.

Adjourned at 6:55

Linda Sosa Recording Officer

This meeting took place electronically via Google Hangouts in order to follow the social distancing guidelines given by state and local authorities. The public was able to connect and participate by call in or joining the video.

The Town of Bluff Order and Procedures requires written notice of an emergency meeting at least 3 hours prior to the emergency meeting. Written notice was delivered by email in addition to delivering it personally and leaving it at the member's usual place of abode.