

LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, Kelli Wollmann, Chair
Roger Hageman, Vice Chair
Aaron Johnson, Commissioner
Deb Reinicke, Commissioner
Dennis Slaughter, Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 17, 2020

Madison, SD – Community responses to the COVID-19 public health emergency are constantly evolving. It is hard to know what the appropriate response is, as you will never know if you have done too much, but you will most certainly know if you have done too little. The safety and health of our community and our employees will always be a top priority, and any decisions to limit or restrict services will be made with that priority in mind.

At this time, Lake County offices are open and available to provide **essential services** to the public. However, we will be taking active steps to reduce our in-person contacts with the public. If your need is not urgent or if you are feeling ill, we encourage you to please consider doing the following:

- 1) If your business is not essential, please consider delaying.
- 2) Prior to visiting county offices, please call or e-mail to see if the business you need to complete may be conducted online, by e-mail, or over the phone.
- 3) Schedule an appointment with the county office – this may minimize the time required to complete your business, as the office may be able to partially complete your transaction prior to your arrival.

CDC guidance as of 3/15/2020 recommends that in-person events that consist of 50 people or more should be canceled or postponed. Lake County will be following that guidance with respect to in-person events at county-owned facilities until further notice.

In an effort to reduce public exposure and comply with state and federal recommendations, specific departments will be further modifying operations as follows:

- 1) Extension: There will be no face-to-face meetings with extension clients. All face-to-face 4-H meetings and events are canceled or postponed through at least 4/1/2020. Commercial pesticide exams will not be offered until further notice.
- 2) Veteran Services: There will be no face-to-face meetings with veteran clients. Veterans are encouraged to call the Veteran Services Officer at 256-7612 to discuss what services may be provided remotely.

As this situation continues to evolve, additional changes to our operations may need to be made. Those operational changes will be posted to our county website (www.lake.sd.gov) and county Facebook page (Lake County, South Dakota).

Department contact information is listed below:

Auditor: 256-7600 / lakeauditor@lake.sd.gov
Treasurer: 256-7618 / Debra.Walburg@state.sd.us
Register of Deeds: 256-7614 / lakerod@lake.sd.gov
Equalization: 256-7605 / lakedoe@lake.sd.gov
Zoning / Welfare: 605-256-7610 / lakezoning@lake.sd.gov
Community Health Nurse: 256-5309 / laura.olson@state.sd.us
State's Attorney: 256-7630 / wendy.kloepfner@lake.sd.gov

Emergency Management Office: 256-7611 / lakeema@lake.sd.gov

Building Maintenance: 256-7623 / lakebldg@lake.sd.gov

911 Communications: 256-7620 / lake911@lake.sd.gov

Highway Department: 256-7606 / lakehwy@lake.sd.gov

Sheriff's Office / Jail: 256-7615 / tim.walburg@lake.sd.gov

Extension: 256-7603 / Lake.County@sdstate.edu

Veteran Services: 256-7612 / lakevso@lake.sd.gov

Commission: 256-7630 / shelligust@lake.sd.gov