



## **MEETING WITH COUNTY LEADERS ON MARCH 20-23, 2020**

### **COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS) PREPAREDNESS**

Note: Also refer to March 16, 2020 Meeting with County Leaders Report

#### **BRUNSWICK COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

- Dr. Harris, Board of Supervisor Chair, and Dr. Woolridge participated in a White House COVID-19 Briefing Call on March 18, 2020.
- The Southside Health District announced on March 20, 2020, its first COVID-19 case in the district. The resident of Mecklenburg is a male in his 50's who had contact with a person in another part of Virginia who was diagnosed with COVID-19.
- On March 20, 2020, Brunswick County issued a notice to close offices to the public effective immediately.
- Brunswick County has modified its staffing to essential personnel only.
- On March 20, 2020, the Board of Supervisors sent a letter to citizens, business and religious leaders to provide an update of COVID-19.
- A Declaration of Local Emergency was adopted by the Board of Supervisors on March 20, 2020.
- On Friday, March 20, staff (County Administrator, Assistant County Administrator, and Emergency Services Coordinator) called the three funeral home directors (Brown's Funeral Home, Pearson's Funeral Home and Williams Funeral Home) in our County to discuss safety and COVID-19 information.
- Continue to facilitate ongoing discussions with regional County Administrators.

#### **CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

- No new report. Refer to report dated March 16, 2020.

#### **COURTS**

- No new report. Refer to report dated March 16, 2020.

#### **ENVOY OF LAWRENCEVILLE**

- All outside vendors are cancelled.
- If a resident needs an urgent procedure, they will be taken to the local emergency room.

#### **FIRE & EMS**

- Continue to participate in Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) conference calls.
- Dispatch is screening emergency calls to determine if patient has symptoms associated with COVID-19.

- Following Old Dominion Emergency Medical Services Alliance (ODEMSA) protocols and Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines when answering suspected COVID-19 calls.
- Working to obtain masks which are in limited supply nationwide.
- ODEMSA provided 40 masks to each EMS agency.

#### **INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

- No new report. Refer to report dated March 16, 2020.

#### **JAIL (MEHERRIN RIVER REGIONAL JAIL AUTHORITY)**

- No new report. Refer to report dated March 16, 2020.

#### **LIBRARY (MEHERRIN REGIONAL LIBRARY SYSTEM)**

- No new report. Refer to report dated March 16, 2020.

#### **SCHOOLS (BRUNSWICK COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS)**

- On March 23, 2020, Governor Northam announced the closure of all public and private schools through the end of the 2019-20 academic year.
- The Virginia Department of Education will provide all school divisions in the Commonwealth with guidance for providing food service and the continuity of instruction in an equitable manner while schools are closed.
- Dr. Lane, State Superintendent, and his office will provide guidance regarding the following:
  - Graduation for Seniors
  - How to issue standard and verified credits with a focus on differentiated requirements for a 12<sup>th</sup> grader
  - Allow for new instruction
  - Ensuring equity for students with disabilities

#### **SHERIFF'S OFFICE (BCSO)**

- No new report. Refer to report dated March 16, 2020.

#### **SOCIAL SERVICES**

- Starting at 9:00 a.m., March 20, 2020, Brunswick County Department of Social Services is closed to the public.
- Citizens may reach staff by calling 434-848-2142 during regular business hours, M-F or via email.
- Citizens may use the after-hours drop box to submit applications and paperwork located on the front of the building next to the entrance.
- To apply for benefits, call 1-855-635-4370 or access the online application at [www.commonhelp.virginia.gov](http://www.commonhelp.virginia.gov)
- For replacement EBT Card, call 1-866-281-2448.

- To report a CPS or APS issue during working hours call 434-848-2142.
- To report concerns after hours for CPS contact the CPS hotline at 1-800-552-7096
- To report concerns after hours for APS contact the APS hotline at 1-888-832-3858.
- We had a reduced workforce at the Agency today. We will begin the week of March 23rd providing services/benefits to Brunswick County citizens with a reduced workforce at the Agency and some staff tele-working. Some logistics still needs to be worked out before this can be fully implemented, but I anticipate this to be implemented on March 24th.
- Requests to use up to \$5,000 of the Agency's FY-20 local budget allocation to provide services, stability and safety to seniors and families who need crisis intervention with shelter, food, and utilities during this health crisis. We currently have less than \$100 in the Agency's Special Welfare Emergency fund.

#### **SOUTHSIDE COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD**

- To help reduce the risk of spreading the virus, we have closed our facilities to the public and will conduct all services with phone and video conferencing equipment.
- Staff will work with clients to ensure they have their medication.
- Citizens may reach us as follows:
  - Accepting new clients. Call centralized scheduling number: 1-833-272-2778
  - Crisis: 1-833-377-7272
  - Emergencies: 1-833-377-7272
  - General Information and Services: 1-833-272-2778

#### **SOUTHSIDE VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE (SVCC)**

- No new report. Refer to report dated March 16, 2020.

#### **TOWN OF ALBERTA**

- No new report. Refer to report dated March 16, 2020.

#### **TOWN OF BRODNAX**

- No new report. Refer to report dated March 16, 2020.

#### **TOWN OF LAWRENCEVILLE**

- On March 23, 2020, Town Council adopted Proclamation To Declare Local Emergency.

#### **VIRGINIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION**

- VCE is updating its COVID-19 webpage daily: <https://ext.vt.edu/covid-19updates/resources.html> to include ideas for youth, parents and everyone
- Offices are closed to the public.
- We are minimizing our office staff today. We have permission from our District Director to telework effective Friday, March 20, 2020.
- In constant contact with District Director Sonya Furgurson.