

TAYLOR COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

PERRY, FLORIDA

THURSDAY, JULY 29, 2021

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE BOARD SPECIAL MEETING

201 E. GREEN STREET

TAYLOR COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLEX

OLD POST OFFICE

THE CHAIR CALLED THE WORKSHOP TO ORDER AT 9:05 A.M. THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD ATTENDED THE MEETING AS FOLLOWS:

<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>OFFICE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>HOW ATTENDED</u>	<u>PORTION ATTENDED</u>
1		JAMIE ENGLISH	IN PERSON	ALL
2	VICE-CHAIR	JIM MOODY	IN PERSON	ALL
3		MICHAEL NEWMAN	IN PERSON	ALL
4		PAM FEAGLE	IN PERSON	ALL
5	CHAIR	THOMAS DEMPS	IN PERSON	ALL

COUNTY STAFF ATTENDED THE MEETING AS FOLLOWS:

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>HOW ATTENDED</u>	<u>PORTION ATTENDED</u>
COUNTY ADMIN.	LAWANDA PEMBERTON	IN PERSON	ALL
ASST CO ADMIN	MARSHA DURDEN	IN PERSON	ALL
COUNTY ATTORNEY	CONRAD BISHOP	IN PERSON	ALL

COUNTY CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS ATTENDED THE MEETING AS FOLLOWS:

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>HOW ATTENDED</u>	<u>PORTION ATTENDED</u>
CLERK OF COURT	GARY KNOWLES	IN PERSON	ALL
TAX COLLECTOR	MARK WIGGINS	IN PERSON	ALL

THOMAS DEMPS LED THE BOARD IN PRAYER, FOLLOWED BY THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG. BUSINESS WAS TRANSACTED AS FOLLOWS:

THE CHAIRMAN READ INSTRUCTIONS FOR CONFERENCE CALL-IN LINE.

3. TONYA HOBBY, INTERIM ADMINISTRATOR, FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, TO PROVIDE COVID-19 UPDATE FOR TAYLOR COUNTY.

DISCUSSION:

MS. HOBBY PRESENTED A CURRENT PRESS RELEASE SHOWING AN INCREASE IN COVID-19 CASES IN TAYLOR COUNTY.

MS. HOBBY – THE BEST WAY TO FIGHT THE VIRUS IS TO GET EVERYONE VACCINATED. TAYLOR COUNTY IS AT 34% VACCINATED.

COMMISSIONER FEAGLE – CAN WE MANDATE MASKS AND LIMIT THE PUBLIC IN OUR BUILDINGS?

COUNTY ATTORNEY – YES, AT THIS TIME.

CHRIS SCHMIDT, CEO, DMH – THE HOSPITAL SYSTEM IS 43% VACCINATED. 1% OF THOSE TESTING POSITIVE FOR COVID-19 WERE PREVIOUSLY VACCINATED. WE HAVE A COVID UNIT AT DMH.

CHAIRMAN DEMPS – WHAT ABOUT CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 11?

MS. HOBBY – WE ONLY HAVE APPROVED VACCINES FOR AGES 12 AND UP.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – RECOMMENDED FOLLOWING CDC GUIDELINES AND ASK EMPLOYEES TO WEAR MASKS IF UNABLE TO SOCIAL DISTANCE.

ATTACHMENT: TAYLOR COUNTY COVID-19 UPDATE – 7.27.2021

4. THE BOARD TO FURTHER DISCUSS ROAD MILLING POLICY.

DISCUSSION:

COMMISSIONER NEWMAN – I ASKED FOR A CHANGE TO ALLOW FOR SMALLER DISTANCES AND A NEW MATERIAL.

COMMISSIONER ENGLISH – LIGNOSULFONATE IS BEING USED, BUT HAS TO BE RE-APPLIED EVERY FOUR (4) MONTHS.

COUNTY ENGINEER – THESE MATERIALS HAVE NOT BEEN USED IN THE SOUTH. THEY WORK BETTER IN THE NORTH.

THE CURRENT POLICY HAS OVER TWENTY (20) YEARS OF EXPERIENCE, IT HAS EVOLVED FROM A DUST SOLUTION PROCESS.

COMMISSIONER NEWMAN – HAS THE COUNTY DEVIATED FROM THIS POLICY?

COUNTY ENGINEER – MAYBE STRICKLAND'S LANDING?

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – WE HAVE DEVIATED BECAUSE OF A LACK OF A DUST CONTROL POLICY.

COMMISSIONER ENGLISH – GIVE ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO REACH OUT TO OTHERS IN FLORIDA AND GATHER INFORMATION ON WHAT OTHERS ARE DOING. I CAN THEN PRESENT THAT IN A SUMMARY.

5. THE BOARD TO DISCUSS BOAT RAMP FEES.

DISCUSSION:

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – I HAVE ASKED THE TAX COLLECTOR TO COME TALK ABOUT BOAT RAMP FEES AND HIS EXPERIENCE WITH INCREASING THEM.

TAX COLLECTOR – FLORIDA WILDLIFE COMMISSION (FWC) WILL BE CONCERNED WITH SINKING FUND BALANCE, USE OF BOAT RAMPS AND USAGE OF FEES - \$50,000 OFF OF THE \$20 FEE IN 2020.

COMMISSIONER ENGLISH – WHAT ABOUT INCREASING THE FEE FOR EVERYONE?

TAX COLLECTOR – I CAN ASK ABOUT INCREASING FEES FOR ALL PURCHASES.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – THESE FEES ARE RESTRICTED AS TO WHAT THEY CAN BE USED FOR.

6. THE BOARD TO DISCUSS RECREATION IN STEINHATCHEE.

DISCUSSION:

COMMISSIONER NEWMAN – FIVE (5) ACTIVE TEAMS ON THE FIELDS IN STEINHATCHEE. THEY PLAY ON SCHOOL FIELDS. TWO (2) FIELDS. I WOULD LIKE TO WORK WITH THE SCHOOL BOARD TO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE THESE FIELDS FOR USE.

COMMISSIONER FEAGLE – THIS IS A SCHOOL BOARD ISSUE AND WE DON'T NEED TO BE INVOLVED.

COMMISSIONER ENGLISH – WHAT IS THE SCHOOL BOARD WILLING TO DO?

COMMISSIONER NEWMAN – POSSIBILITY OF USING THE CURRENT SPACE IN A JOINT EFFORT TO IMPROVE SPACE.

COUNTY ATTORNEY – INTERLOCAL AGREEMENTS ARE ALLOWED TO AGREE UPON FUNDING.

7. THE BOARD TO DISCUSS THE MASTER PROJECT LIST.

DISCUSSION:

MASTER PROJECTS LIST.

FLOOD PLAN MANAGEMENT – CORP OF ENGINEERS IS WORKING ON DEVELOPMENT.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – THEY HAVE MADE ONE (1) SITE VISIT TO STEINHATCHEE.

COMMISSIONER FEAGLE – WHEN WILL THEY BE BACK AT HINGSON TANNER ROAD?

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – I WILL HAVE TO ASK THEM.

THE HOUR BEING APPROXIMATELY 11:17 A.M., AND THERE BEING NO FURTHER DISCUSSION,
THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
TAYLOR COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY: _____
THOMAS DEMPS, Chair

ATTEST:

BY: _____
GARY KNOWLES, Clerk

Mission:

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



Ron DeSantis
Governor

Scott A. Rivkees, MD
State Surgeon General

Vision: To be the Healthiest State in the Nation

Taylor County COVID-19 Update – 7/27/2021

What is going on with cases in our county?

Taylor County is experiencing an increase in COVID-19 cases, almost all of which are occurring in unvaccinated persons. The Florida weekly COVID-19 data report can be found at the link: <https://floridahealthcovid19.gov/> . This report is updated each Friday. Let’s look at July 2021 data:

Taylor:

Week	Positive	Percent positive
7/2-7/8	14	19.2%
7/9-7/15	26	14.7%
7/16-7/22	31	15.2%

Florida:

Week	Positive	Percent positive
7/2-7/8	23,697	7.8%
7/9-7/15	45,604	11.5%
7/16-7/22	73,199	15.1%

Most positive cases are occurring in unvaccinated individuals, between 15-44 years.

Looking for a COVID-19 vaccine? Your healthcare system has you covered.

Your local Department of Health (DOH) and other medical providers continue to offer the COVID-19 vaccine at no cost. If you would like to schedule with the health department, please call (850) 584-5087. Vaccines are also available through Doctors’ Memorial Hospital’s Medical Plaza in Perry or Steinhatchee and local pharmacy locations, including Walmart, Walgreens, CVS, Winn Dixie, and Jay’s Pharmacy.

“I know someone who got the vaccine and still got COVID-19”

Vaccine breakthrough cases are expected. COVID-19 vaccines are effective and are a critical tool to bring the pandemic under control. However, no vaccines are 100% effective in preventing illness in vaccinated people. Vaccine breakthrough cases are expected but are only occurring in a very small percentage of vaccinated people.

How well is Taylor County doing with vaccination efforts?

Taylor County has 6,700 vaccinated residents. This accounts for about 34% of the population of those eligible (age 12+). The state of Florida has vaccinated 60% of the population of those eligible.

Fully vaccinated individuals:

- Do not have to quarantine if exposed *unless* they are experiencing symptoms.

- Can resume domestic travel and refrain from testing before travel or self-quarantine after travel.
- Can refrain from testing before leaving the United States for international travel (unless required by the destination) and refrain from self-quarantine after arriving back in the United States.
- Can refrain from routine screening testing if asymptomatic and feasible.

The above recommendations apply to non-healthcare settings. We recommend that you research travel restrictions, rules, and guidelines before traveling, as these can vary in different locations. Fully vaccinated individuals should continue to watch for symptoms of COVID-19.

Watch those symptoms!

Common symptoms include headache, fever or chills, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and/or diarrhea. We often hear about “really bad sinus infections” or allergies that could be COVID-19.

REMINDER: if you test positive for COVID-19, please follow guidance from the health department. You can be with others after:

- At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared **and**
- At least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medications **and**
- Other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving.

If you had exposure to a positive case and are not vaccinated, please follow quarantine orders. Call the health department for any questions. Information about quarantine can be found at the following link: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/quarantine.html>

What about variants?

It is important to note that virus mutation is common and new variants of a virus are expected to occur over time. The approved COVID-19 vaccines are effective against all known variants of COVID-19.

The Florida Department of Health has been part of the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) SARS-CoV-2 sequencing efforts since the beginning of the pandemic. The CDC is the lead agency on variant surveillance nationwide. To best understand variants, please refer to CDC data.

To better understand variants, please visit the CDC link: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/variants/variant.html>

DOH-Taylor continues to urge all Floridians to get their COVID-19 vaccine. Please contact the health department for any questions related to COVID-19 at (850) 584-5087.