Virus-based emergency order kept in Atchison Co

(KAIR)--An Emergency Public Health Order, pertaining to mitigating the spread of COVID-19, remains in place in Atchison County.

However, revisions have been made, with the Health Order implemented November 24 of last year, rescinded and replaced with a revised, updated order.

That happened Tuesday as part of the weekly regular meeting of the Atchison County Commission.

The revised order, presented by Atchison County Health Officer Lori Forge, prohibits mass gatherings of more than 20 people. That applies to any single-location gathering where individuals are unable to maintain a 6-foot distance between each other.

Certain restrictions on Atchison County-based businesses remain in place, including the requirement that masks, covering the nose and mouth, are worn. The order states that "all businesses in operation should follow industry-specific guidelines" as required by the state.

Salons, barber shops, and other such personal service businesses operating within Atchison County, must continue to follow such requirements as keeping records of all customers and spacing out appointments to allow proper cleaning of facilities.

Similar mandates are also in place for gyms and fitness centers operating in the county. Retail businesses, including restaurants, must continue limiting the number of customers to 20 for each 1,000 square feet of space.

The order carries legal weight, stating that any law enforcement officer working within Atchison County is "ordered to assist in the execution and enforcement" of the order.

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