

Mask mandate extended in Jefferson Co

(KAIR)--The mandatory wearing of face masks in Jefferson County continues, with the mandate extended this week.

That happened Tuesday, during the regular meeting of the Jefferson County Commission, after Health Department Administrator Crystal VanHoutan provided the Commission with an update regarding cases of COVID-19 in the County.

VanHoutan explained that Jefferson County added 36 new confirmed positive cases in the ten days prior to Tuesday's meeting. Saying that the County is at 5% for the 14 day measurement of percent positive, VanHoutan said measures implemented by the County to mitigate the spread of the virus are working. She told the Commissioners continuing the mandate would allow more time to keep residents safe by vaccinations, mask-wearing, social distancing, and hand washing, with 1,900 residents, over the age of 65, still needing to receive the vaccine.

Following VanHoutan's address, the Commission voted 2-1 to extend the mandate for two weeks, until March 1, with the situation to again be assessed at that time.

The extension was approved, with Commissioners Lynn Luck and Richard Malm voting in support, while Commissioner David Christy cast the lone no vote.

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