## DALLAS COUNTY COMMISSION NEWS RELEASE

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## **CHAIRMAN**

Jimmy L. Nunn

## **COMMISSIONERS**

Roy Moore Valerie Reubin Larry Nickles Curtis Williams

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

I want to first and foremost thank everyone who is on the frontlines in fighting the novel coronavirus and extend our thoughts and prayers to the families that have been affected by COVID-19. The safety and well-being of our citizens and our employees is our top priority. We are actively monitoring the COVID-19 situation and taking the necessary measures to help keep our community safe.

The Dallas County Commission will be meeting on Monday to approve a resolution declaring a State of Emergency in Dallas County and to allocate the sum of \$200,000 from its general fund toward PPE's (Personal Protection Equipment) and appropriate staff to assist in combating the virus. SOE is being issued in an effort to have the opportunity to be reimbursed from Federal or state for any and all expenses related to the virus.

Based on recommendations from ADPH and CDC, the Dallas County Commission has already implemented emergency measures to reduce risk of transmission of the virus, protect the public, and maintain operations within the county. Our priority is to provide the greatest protection to our employees and to the public.

Among the most effective measures, we are limiting access to the Courthouse and annex via the alley way (one way in) with the sheriff having personnel at each entrance making available sanitizer, gloves and/or mask.

The Courthouse will handle essential business only along with implementing social distance (keeping a physical distance of six feet from another individual), keeping your hands cleaned and sanitized, covering your face when coughing or sneezing and staying home if you are experiencing a fever or difficulty breathing. We are requesting citizens to utilize our on-line services for paying taxes and renewing tags. Web-site <a href="www.dallascounty-al.org">www.dallascounty-al.org</a> Tag renewal is <a href="www.dallascountyproperty-tags.com">www.dallascountyproperty-tags.com</a>

The Dallas County Commission will be implementing the following:

- For the next 60 days, moving to one meeting per month;
- Starting immediately, all commission meetings will be held in the main courtroom on the second floor of the courthouse to allow persons attending to sit at least 6-10 feet apart from each other;
- A health nurse or sheriff personnel will be stationed at the entrance to the meeting to examine individuals entering and to provide sanitizer, gloves and/or mask;
- Commission will further suspend public comment and limit the meetings to essential business allowing department heads to present written reports to the commission.

In an effort to minimize the risk of exposure to our children, staff and coaches, the Commission has postponed all recreational activities (including scheduled games and practices) at the Dallas County Sportsplex until April 4, 2020.

The Supreme Court of Alabama has issued an administrative order declaring a state of emergency for the entire judicial branch for the State of Alabama which means all court proceedings within Dallas County will be suspended through April 16, 2020.

Dealing with the run-off election, the Governor has announced that the election will be held on July 14, 2020.

Any new information will be posted on the County's website and additional announcements will be made as new information becomes available. In the meantime, the Commission recommends that citizens utilize the following websites for up-to-date information.

Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) COVID-19: <a href="https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/infectiousdiseases/2019-coronavirus.html">https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/infectiousdiseases/2019-coronavirus.html</a>

HHS/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Community Mitigation Strategies Guide: <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/community-mitigation-strategy.pdf">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/community-mitigation-strategy.pdf</a>

Lastly, I'm asking citizens to:

- pray without ceasing
- If you are sick with fever or cough stay home
- Use common sense sanitize, sanitize, sanitize
- Don't freak out

May God bless this County, State and Nation Thank you