



Pratt County Health Department
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NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 3, 2020

**JOINT STATEMENT TO CITIZENS OF PRATT COUNTY
REGARDING GOVERNOR’S EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 20-52
Requiring masks or other face coverings in public**

During a special meeting this morning, Pratt County Commission in collaboration with the Pratt County Health Officer have agreed upon opting out of Governor Laura Kelly's 'Mask Order', Executive Order 20-52, which was released on Thursday July, 2nd. Pratt County, the City of Pratt, and the Pratt County Health Officer, still highly encourage everyone to wear a mask when social distancing is not able to be maintained. However, masks are not mandatory at this time.

The Governor’s executive orders can be found at:
<https://governor.kansas.gov/newsroom/executive-orders/>.

RESOLUTION NO. 07032020

AN ORDER EXEMPTING PRATT COUNTY, KANSAS,
FROM EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 20-52

WHEREAS, on July 2, 2020, Governor Kelly issued Executive Order No. 20-52, requiring masks or other face coverings in public, said Order becoming effective as of 12:01 a.m. on July 3, 2020;

WHEREAS, pursuant to K.S.A. § 48-925, as amended by 2020 Special Session House Bill 2016, Section 33, the Board of County Commissioners of Pratt County, Kansas (BOCC) may issue an order relating to public health that includes provisions that are less stringent than the provisions of an executive order effective statewide issued by the Governor; and


WHEREAS, the BOCC has made the following findings:

1. The BOCC has consulted with the local health officer and local health officials regarding Executive Order No. 20-52;
2. Following consultation with the local health officer and local health officials, while it is ~~suggested~~ ^{recommended} that masks or face coverings be utilized in public, implementation of the full scope of the provisions of Executive Order No. 20-52 requiring the same are not necessary to protect the public health and safety of Pratt County; and
3. As of this date, there have been 11 positive cases of COVID-19 within Pratt County, with 6 being recovered. Moreover, community spread has not been identified within Pratt County.

NOW, THEREFORE, the BOCC hereby orders that Pratt County is exempt from the requirements of masks and other face coverings as set forth in Executive Order No. 20-52.

IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 3RD DAY OF JULY, 2020.

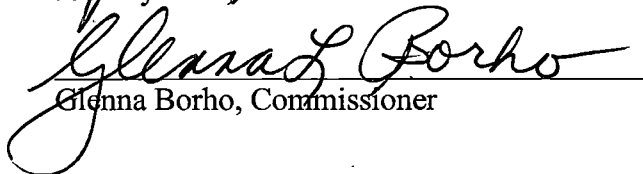
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF PRATT COUNTY, KANSAS



Tom Jones, Chairman

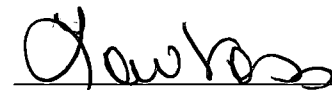


Joe Reynolds, Commissioner



Glenna Borho, Commissioner

ATTEST:



Lori Voss, County Clerk