

Minutes
COVID-19 Response Team
Video Conferencing
Tuesday, August 25, 2020
7:30 a.m.

PRESENT: Tim Soular, East Range Police Department Chief; Becky Lammi, Aurora City Administrator; Jeff Jacobson, Biwabik City Administrator; Becky Burich, Hoyt Lakes City Clerk; Amanda Gross, Mesabi East School Board; Laura Ackman, Essentia Health Administrator; Jodi Knaus, Town of White Manager

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m.

The COVID-19 Response Team discussed the closure and possible re-opening of public buildings. **The Team recommends the Public Libraries are open prior to September 8, 2020 to allow resources for the Mesabi East School children to be available resources. City Halls and other buildings will be re-assessed in September.**

Tim Soular with the East Range Police Department said there has been a large increase in call volume.

Becky Burich stated the Hoyt Lakes Council approved Mesabi East Youth Hockey beginning September 13; with the mandates in place. They approved Essentia's Drive-Up Flu Clinic at the Emergency Services Building. The Clerk's Office is getting remodeled in September to increase safety.

Jeff Jacobson said Biwabik hasn't had any complaints about City Hall being closed. It's been really quiet. The construction project will be complete September 30.

Becky Lammi discussed the complaints received at voting regarding Aurora's public building closures.

Amanda Gross outlined the learning plan for Mesabi East School; elementary school kids will be going every day; high school will be a hybrid model. It will be re-assessed after 9 weeks to determine if everyone can come back in full time.

Jodi Knaus stated the Town of White voting went well; there was only voter who wasn't respectful of the pandemic rules. Annual Meeting is taking place next week – offered in person and via Zoom.

Laura Ackman said Essentia Health we saw our first case a couple weeks ago. There has been a steady, slow trickle of cases. She expects the cases to increase, and hopes the mask mandate decreases the rate. Ensuring proper PPE due to positive cases; some patrons are angry about masks.

The next meeting will be TBD via Zoom. This is a closed meeting.