

**NEWS RELEASE**  
**SANDUSKY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**THE SANDUSKY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HAVE REQUESTED THE PARTIAL ACTIVATION OF THE SANDUSKY COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 SPREAD.**

On March 13, 2020 the Sandusky County Board of Commissioners have requested partial activation of the Sandusky County Emergency Management Agency (SCEMA) in response to national spread of COVID-19. This partial activation is aligned with the Ohio Emergency Management Agency (OEMA) which also is in partial activation and monitoring mode. OEMA's actions followed the confirmation of a confirmed COVID-19 case in Trumbull County and the anticipation of more confirmed cases.

What does this mean:

- SCEMA staff will be monitoring the ongoing activities at the federal, state and local levels;
- Contact information will be shared with the public so that you will know how to contact the SCEMA should you need to do so;

It should be noted that the Sandusky County Health Department (SCHD) is serving as the lead agency in educating the community, providing healthcare recommendations and working with our local healthcare facilities. The SCEMA is currently supporting SCHD in their ongoing response and community awareness efforts.

It is important to note that this action does not have any current impact on the operations of our county government. The county courthouse and respective departments currently will remain open with limited public access. However, several actions are being taken within county departments to limit the exposure of county employees. We ask that the public utilize online or phone contact to address your current needs and to always call ahead before driving to the county department that you need assistance with or if you have scheduled court related activities.

In regards to the Board of elections, they are taking additional measures to protect the public and their staff. Anyone who is concerned and does not want to vote on Election Day can vote early in their office located at 2020 Countryside Drive. The Board of Election office will be open on Saturday, March 14 from 8 am to 4 pm, Sunday, March 15 from 1 pm until 5 pm and Monday, March 16, 2020 from 8 am until 2 pm. After that, anyone wishing to cast their ballot must do so on Election Day, Tuesday March 17 from 6:30 am until 7:30 pm.

The Sandusky County Board for Commissioners continue to receive ongoing updates concerning the virus and we are asking residents to follow the recent guidelines provided by Governor DeWine in relation to actions that we all need to take to help prevent the community spread of the virus and those actions include:

- Wash your hands for 20 seconds or more with soapy water several times throughout your day. If soap is not available use a 60% alcohol-base hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes or mouth with unwashed hands.

For any additional information we ask that you contact the Sandusky County Board of Commissioners' Administrator at 419.334.6111 or email [garcia\\_theresa@co.sandusky.oh.us](mailto:garcia_theresa@co.sandusky.oh.us).

Kay E Reiter, President  
Sandusky County Commissioners