

## **BOCC MEETING PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**7/22/2020**

These are questions and comments received through the County website and through the Strategic Communications email.

**Name:**

Lillie Shoate

**Contact Information:**

nanna42110@yahoo.com

**Received By:**

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

**Subject:**

Face Mask Requirement

**Comment:**

“I came to the Sedgwick county courthouse on Monday to pay on my daughter's ticket. I was asked about a mask. I told them I can't wear one. The officer asked why. I told him because of medical reasons. He then got the other officer. He told me that under no circumstances that anyone isn't allowed in the courthouse without a mask. I had to leave my name and number for a judge to call me. I told them that it's discrimination against my medical reason. I am going to contact my lawyer to see if I can sue the county for turning me away on paying a ticket without wearing a mask. I fall

under the ADA guidelines of not wearing a mask. That is why I told them because of a medical reason.”

**Name:**

Stephen Scheele

**Contact Information:**

Sscheele76@gmail.com

**Received By:**

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

**Subject:**

Bars Closing

**Comment:**

“If you shut down businesses you should give up your paycheck as well so you can see how it feels.”

**Name:**

Martha Lawson

**Contact Information:**

martha.j.lawson@gmail.com

**Received By:**

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

**Subject:**

School Reopening

**Comment:**

“The school start date should not be before September 8, 2020. Classroom sizes need to be limited until our cases decrease to manageable levels. As a parent I support the mandate that students wear masks and social distance in school. Funding should be available to assist schools with the added expense of meeting requirements.”

**Name:**

Chris Jonas

**Contact Information:**

Gavinj1121@gmail.com

**Received By:**

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

**Subject:**

Covid shutdowns

**Comment:**

“The people in this city and county are a lot more informed than you have given us credit for! You pass this latest shutdown you will be killing small business over a “deadly” virus that has a lower death rate than the flu, the death rate has done nothing but decline, which is odd considering it started out at less than one percent, let’s get testing results reported properly and accurately before we start dismantling our local economy, people are smart enough to stay home if they are that worried, every business that goes under because of this is on your hands. If you are ok sleeping at night knowing you have been responsible for that than more power to you!!!”

**Name:**

Aaron Underwood

**Contact Information:**

aaronblackcreekpromotion@gmail.com

**Received By:**

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

**Subject:**

Shutting down bars and leaving churches open

**Comment:**

“I am a gig worker and a musician. I have been fortunate enough to make this my living full time for the last 12 years. In that time I have seen one particular Zoning Board member personally making it hard on bars and venues. Lets add high priced licenses and permits to allow things like music and dancing and it becomes difficult to operate. Now you add insult to this injury by allowing religious organizations exemption to your policy while they are recieving federal aid from a system they don't pay into. Your optics are confusing. I'll take your disregard for my profession and I'll accept that no aid is coming my way since I deal in cash. I will not accept bars closing doors while you play favorites.”

**Name:**

Holly Highfill

**Contact Information:**

aaronblackcreekpromotion@gmail.com

**Received By:**

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

**Subject:**

Shutting down bars

**Comment:**

“I would to state that shutting down the bars is extremely biased and very discriminatory. You let Walmart or any big box store have how many people....but we can't go to a bar? Do honestly think people that have been drinking don't/won't go to these places also? WOW is all I can say. We the people are tired of you doing things that make absolutely zero sense. Think for yourselves. And PLEASE use some common sense. We seem to be running short on common sense lately. I urge you to not shut down these small businesses that are really struggling to survive right now. Make it an even playing field. If you choose to not go to a bar....then you choose that. But please let we the people make our own choices in the land of the free.”

**Name:**

Benjamin Webster

**Contact Information:**

drumsnsuch@gmail.com

**Received By:**

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

**Subject:**

Don't close bars

**Comment:**

“This is ludicrous. I don't know anyone who has gone out drinking or been out to a bar that has contracted the Rona. This is ignorance and blatant targeting at this point. If you are going to close bars down, close everything. No one should leave their houses. That scary less than 2% death rate should be enough that everyone might as well dig a hole in their backyard and hide! So many people are going to be out of work again. You are ruining lives. You don't care.”

**Name:**

Emily Hamburg

**Contact Information:**

emilythora@hotmail.com

**Received By:**

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

**Subject:**

Opposition to More Restrictions on Businesses and Individuals

**Comment:**

“I want to express my strong opposition to the latest proposal for more arbitrary restrictions on individuals and businesses. The initial premise for this coercive shutdown was to “flatten the curve” and not overwhelm hospitals. Now, as the goal posts have continually shifted, we’re just destroying our businesses, mental health, trust in our neighbors, and events and customs that make life worth living beyond just a biological level and my whole lifetime as a resident here so rich. Avoiding this virus is only one consideration as we each assess various risks and trade-offs based on our values. I urge each of you to reject this latest assault on our freedom and the chaos that it is creating in the lives of the good people of this county.”

**Name:**

Sanford Alexander

**Contact Information:**

sjalexander3@icloud.com

**Received By:**

This comment was received through communications email

**Subject:**

Comments on 7/14/2020 staff meeting

**Comment:**

“Dear Commissioners,

Today's meeting was enlightening. Since Commissioner Howell asked for a snapshot, a review of which underscores concerns I have previously shared with the Commission, here it is:

As of 6/1/2020 556 cases with 21 deaths and 411 recoveries was reported. As of 7/13/2020 2156 cases with 883 recoveries and 28 deaths was reported. A couple of points of interest: there were 1600 new cases during this period with only 7 deaths. Assuming no new cases since June 1, 7 people out of 556 cases were recorded. This would represent a concerning 1.3% fatality rate.

Next, as Commissioner Meitzner pointed out, as of 6/25/2020 28 deaths, 10 of which were from every from outside the county, was recorded, the same number reported today, 19 days later. As of 6/19/2020 846 cases with 523 recoveries and 25 deaths was reported. This means that with 1310 new cases reported since 6/19/2020, only 3 deaths have been recorded. The 6/1/2020

death total was 21, meaning that 7 deaths have been reported over the past 43 days. The 2-week cycle rule cited today doesn't present any numbers of statistical significance. As Commissioner Meitzner said, we are doing well percentage wise, having 18% of the state's population and only 10% of the state's recorded deaths. During this same period, how many traffic deaths have we had? How many murders have we had? How many suicides, domestic violence incidents, assaults, rapes, robberies, drug arrests, traffic injuries, worksite injuries have we had? It's time we stopped panicking and started looking at reality!

For years we spent countless hours in city-wide disaster drills, chemical, biological, radiological attacks, plane crashes, tornado recoveries, etc. It was always sadly apparent that our hospital capacity to address such disasters was woefully inadequate and almost impossible to correct. Triage was always a significant element in the exercises and the reality that a lot of people were not going to survive was an inescapable fact reflecting the risks of living. Why are we allowing ourselves to be stampeded into an irrational fear of something that has not proven to be the bubonic plague, small pox or any number of other human catastrophes we have historically faced and overcome? How many cases is a ludicrous measure to use to make decisions when the fatalities per 1000 cases doesn't justify the hysteria we are seeing?

The hospitals have demonstrated that money drives their decision making processes. Contemplating shutting down "elective surgeries" leads to elevated numbers of avoidable cancers, heart

attacks, strokes, etc. Are these same hospitals, and governing bodies, prepared to handle the outrage, lawsuits and unnecessary deaths the foolish course upon which we are cruising will lead to? People will lose their trust in the medical community when they see the consequences of such absurd measures as have been advanced.

The hysteria we saw from some members of the Commission must be brought under control before the actions toward which we are being pushed result in a wrecked economy, a disgruntled populace and a potentially ungovernable condition in our community. Whatever true concern in this epidemic exists will surely be lost in the hysteria if we continue in the direction we are currently traveling.

Sincerely,

Sanford Alexander”

**Name:**

Michelle L. May

**Contact Information:**

mlmay0114@gmail.com

**Received By:**

This comment was received through communications email

**Subject:**

Executive order

**Comment:**

“Hello again, County Commissioners.

I am writing to ask you to please uphold Governor Kelly's executive order to delay the start of the school year until after Labor Day.

This gives our school districts time to get our hands on needed supplies, and to figure out how social distancing will work in our schools.

I know most of you have not been fond of Governor Kelly's executive orders up to this point, but she is listening to the health experts and keeping public health and safety at the forefront of her decisions. I ask that you do the same.

Thank you,

Michelle May

Derby”

**Name:**

Hunter Gromala

**Contact Information:**

hgromala247@gmail.com

**Received By:**

This comment was received through communications email

**Subject:**

Public Comment

**Comment:**

“Good afternoon,

I am emailing you today to comment on the state of our city. We recently have been declared a red zone by the White House, they have suggested guidelines to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

The members of the Board were the last ones on board for the mask mandate. You wanted to risk the health of Kansans with your personal opinion on health, instead of listening to the 13 doctors that testified. Start putting the health of our citizens first and not your personal feelings about masks. Follow the lead of Governor Laura Kelly, and Health Director Minns and openly support the safety measures they are trying to enforce.

I am asking that you implement the guidelines provided by the White House. I am asking that you help reduce the spread, help protect workers, families, and citizens of this state. I am asking that you choose the right side of history

Sincerely,

A very concerned Kansan

- Hunter Gromala

**Name:**

Jianna Cousin

**Contact Information:**

jcousin08@icloud.com

**Received By:**

This comment was received through communications email

**Subject:**

Concerned Citizen Comment

**Comment:**

“Good afternoon,

I am emailing you today to comment on the state of our city. We recently have been declared a red zone by the White House, they have suggested guidelines to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

The members of the Board were the last ones on board for the mask mandate. You wanted to risk the health of Kansans with your personal opinion on health, instead of listening to the 13 doctors that testified. Start putting the health of our citizens first and not your personal feelings about masks. Follow the lead of Governor Laura Kelly, and Health Director Minns and openly support the safety measures they are trying to enforce.

I am asking that you implement the guidelines provided by the White House. I am asking that you help reduce the spread, help protect workers, families, and citizens of this state. I am asking that you choose the right side of history

Sincerely,

A very concerned Kansan

- Hunter Gromala

**Name:**

Tajhnae Stocker

**Contact Information:**

tajstocker@gmail.com

**Received By:**

This comment was received through communications email

**Subject:**

Public Comment

**Comment:**

“Good afternoon,

I am emailing you today to comment on the state of our city. We recently have been declared a red zone by the White House, they have suggested guidelines to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

The members of the Board were the last ones on board for the mask mandate. You wanted to risk the health of Kansans with your personal opinion on health, instead of listening to the 13 doctors that testified. Start putting the health of our citizens first and not your personal feelings about masks. Follow the lead of Governor Laura Kelly, and Health Director Minns and openly support the safety measures they are trying to enforce.

I am asking that you implement the guidelines provided by the White House. I am asking that you help reduce the spread, help protect workers, families, and citizens of this state. I am asking that you choose the right side of history

Sincerely,

A very concerned Kansan

- Hunter Gromala

**Name:**

Rachel Embray

**Contact Information:**

racheleembray@gmail.com

**Received By:**

This comment was received through communications email

**Subject:**

Public Concern

**Comment:**

“Good afternoon, I hope this email finds you well.

I am emailing you today to comment on the state of our city. We recently have been declared a red zone by the White House. Additionally, they have suggested guidelines to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

The members of the Board were the last ones on board for the mask mandate. You wanted to risk the health of Kansans due to your personal opinion on public health and safety, instead of listening to the 13 doctors that testified. Start putting the health of our citizens first and not your personal feelings about masks. Follow the lead of Governor Laura Kelly, and Health Director Minns and openly support the safety measures they are trying to enforce.

I am asking that you implement the guidelines provided by the White House. I am asking that you help reduce the spread, help

protect workers, families, and citizens of this state. I am asking that do the right thing and do your jobs.

Sincerely,

A very concerned Kansan

**Name:**

Dale Weir

**Contact Information:**

sdweir0824@att.net

**Received By:**

This comment was received through communications email

**Subject:**

COVID Restrictions

**Comment:**

“Good morning.....

I read that the County Commissioners are not planning to recommend any additional COVID measures. How disappointing! I don't feel that the residents' well-being is foremost in the commission's mind as much as not wanting to step on any toes. I would think all of you would want to do absolutely everything possible to help get this terrible virus contained, no matter how drastic or how much you think people wouldn't like it. I hope you'll agree with the guidelines set forth today by the county health department. Are you even looking at the information coming from the people who actually know what's going on, or do you plan to continue on the same ineffective path you're on? All residents should HAVE to follow the same guidelines, not just if they feel like it. If another lockdown won't be necessitated, if schools are going to start back up safely, if the local economy is going to

improve, if the upcoming holidays can be more “normal”, it all depends on what we do now. Please take a stand for what is really needed based on what the experts say and the data reveals. This wishy-washy attitude of the county commission is absolutely unacceptable. We ALL need to take action NOW and each do our part to help get this situation under some kind of control.

Dale Weir”

**Name:**

Dana Barrientos

**Contact Information:**

dlbarrientos85@gmail.com

**Received By:**

This comment was received through communications email

**Subject:**

New Issues

**Comment:**

“As a citizen of Sedgwick County, I wanted to share my thoughts on the order from the county health department regarding closings of bars, etc. Please do not close any businesses! Restrict the numbers of people, make a closing time, masks, social distancing, etc. however don't force them to close. People are struggling financially and emotionally and need to be at work. Trust your business owners! All of the places I have been to have many safeguards in place already. I haven't been to one business that wasn't requiring masks and social distancing. The numbers of people testing positive have gone up. How many of those positive people are in the hospital versus recovering at home? That is the most important number. Please don't punish those people who are trying to continue working and providing for their families.

Thank you,

Dana Barrientos

Sent from my iPhone”

**Name:**

Amira Coleman

**Contact Information:**

amira.j.coleman@gmail.com

**Received By:**

This comment was received through communications email

**Subject:**

Public Comment – Listen to the White House

**Comment:**

“Hello,

I am emailing you today to comment on the tragic state of our city. We recently have been declared a red zone by the White House administration and they have suggested guidelines to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

The members of the County Commissioners Board were the last ones who caved for the mask mandate. You wanted to risk the health of Kansans with your personal opinion on health, instead of listening to the 13 doctors that testified. Start putting the health of our citizens first and not your personal feelings about masks. Masks are not a political issue, they are a public health issue. Follow the lead of Governor Laura Kelly, and Health Director Minns and openly support the safety measures they are trying to enforce.

I understand the local economy is in a very fragile state, but I'm hoping that the board will value human lives over the 'life' of

Sedgwick County's economy and mandate the protective measures as laid out by the White House administration.

I am asking that you implement the guidelines provided by the White House. I am asking that you help reduce the spread, help protect workers, families, and citizens of this state. I am asking that you choose the right side of history.

Sincerely,

Amira Coleman”

**Name:**

Lisa Kilmer

**Contact Information:**

kilmerld@gmail.com

**Received By:**

This comment was received through communications email

**Subject:**

Public Comment

**Comment:**

“Good afternoon, I am emailing you today to comment on the state of our city. We recently have been declared a red zone by the White House, they have suggested guidelines to reduce the spread of COVID-19. The members of the Board were the last ones on board for the mask mandate. You wanted to risk the health of Kansans with your personal opinion on health, instead of listening to the 13 doctors that testified. Start putting the health of our citizens first and not your personal feelings about masks. Follow the lead of Governor Laura Kelly, and Health Director Minns and openly support the safety measures they are trying to enforce. I am asking that you implement the guidelines provided by the White House. I am asking that you help reduce the spread, help protect workers, families, and citizens of this state. I am asking that you choose the right side of history.

Sincerely,

Lisa Kilmer

A very concerned Wichitan”

**Name:**

Sierra Franklin

**Contact Information:**

sfranklin1191@gmail.com

**Received By:**

This comment was received through communications email

**Subject:**

Public Comment

**Comment:**

“Good afternoon,

I am emailing you today to comment on the state of our city. We recently have been declared a red zone by the White House, they have suggested guidelines to reduce the spread of COVID-19. The members of the Board were the last ones on board for the mask mandate. You wanted to risk the health of Kansans with your personal opinion on health, instead of listening to the 13 doctors that testified. Start putting the health of our citizens first and not your personal feelings about masks. Follow the lead of Governor Laura Kelly, and Health Director Minns and openly support the safety measures they are trying to enforce. I am asking that you implement the guidelines provided by the White House. I am asking that you help reduce the spread, help protect workers, families, and citizens of this state. I am asking that you choose the right side of history

Sincerely,  
A very concerned Kansan  
Sent from my iPhone”

**Name:**

Claire Powell

**Contact Information:**

pokemario@swbell.net

**Received By:**

This comment was received through communications email

**Subject:**

Public Comment

**Comment:**

“Good afternoon,

I am emailing you today to comment on the state of our city. We recently have been declared a red zone by the White House, they have suggested guidelines to reduce the spread of COVID-19. The members of the Board were the last ones on board for the mask mandate. You wanted to risk the health of Kansans with your personal opinion on health, instead of listening to the 13 doctors that testified. Start putting the health of our citizens first and not your personal feelings about masks. Follow the lead of Governor Laura Kelly, and Health Director Minns and openly support the safety measures they are trying to enforce. I am asking that you implement the guidelines provided by the White House. I am asking that you help reduce the spread, help protect workers, families, and citizens of this state. I am asking that you choose the right side of history

Sincerely,  
A very concerned Kansan  
Sent from my iPhone”

**Name:**

Austin Buller

**Contact Information:**

austinwbuller@gmail.com

**Received By:**

This comment was received through communications email

**Subject:**

COVID-19 Public Comment 7/21/2020

**Comment:**

“Austin Buller  
Registered Nurse  
District 5  
Resident of Mulvane, KS  
Working as a Case Manager in Derby, KS

I appreciate the work that is being done to address Covid-19 in our community. I very much appreciate that we have a mask order in place and that precautions are being taken to protect my three young children as we get closer to them returning to school this year. There may be difficulties associated with masks in school, but we don't get to make the biological rules the virus follows; we can only adhere to them. Requiring masks in schools is a simple way to prevent the spread of this virus. I, as much as anybody, want my children to be in school, especially my child with special needs that benefits greatly from continuous year

round education. I would greatly appreciate any efforts by the board of commissioners to make returning to school a safe reality.

As a case manager for an acute care hospital I am responsible for helping patient's arrange care when they are stable to be discharged. It is a great opportunity when patients are able to return back home with family care or one of the great home health agencies in our area, but many patients have no choice but to discharge to a skilled rehab facility to regain their strength. In these situations they are allowed no family visitations. It can be a difficult decision, even when justified, to go to a facility in these conditions. This is just one of the many isolated communities in Sedgwick county that is suffering and as a community we can work together to make a difference in the impact this virus has. It starts with our leadership, so I urge you once again to do whatever is within your ability to rely on the science and the health care officials to make recommendations and orders that allow us to be safe and return to a sense of normalcy as quickly as possible.”

**Name:**

Spencer Reames

**Contact Information:**

sreames@mkcoop.com

**Received By:**

This comment was received through communications email

**Subject:**

Shutdown order Dr. Minns

**Comment:**

“Do not allow an unelected bureaucrat to mandate any shutdown of any kind, same guy who a couple of weeks ago said that masks were the cure, we better stop this unconstitutional activity now.”

**Name:**

Andrew Gough

**Contact Information:**

andrew.gough@reverieroasters.com

**Received By:**

This comment was received through communications email

**Subject:**

Support for Executive Order

**Comment:**

“Good day, Sedgwick County Commissioners.

I’m writing you in hope that you choose to support Dr. Minns’ executive order.

Our community cannot afford to miss the opportunity to get rid of COVID-19. By making decisions supported by science and the entire medical community, we will ensure our city and region will get back on path to reopening sooner and stronger. As you all are aware by now, past decisions to eliminate orders and reopen sooner has resulted in a reversal in the lower transmission rates, making our county and state one of worst regions in the country. Please don’t make that mistake again by politicizing a health & safety issue. My sick family (immunocompromised), my sick neighbor (COVID-19 +) and my community (both business and people) need for this to get over faster. And the experts say that this is the only way. Too many aren’t taking this serious enough,

and the results are what we now know. Please go with Dr. Minns and help us to get past COVID-19.

Thank you-

Andrew Gough

Reverie Coffee Roasters”

**Name:**

Abby Jurgenmeier Carney

**Contact Information:**

abby9808@hotmail.com

**Received By:**

This comment was received through communications email

**Subject:**

Public Comment

**Comment:**

“Good afternoon,

I am emailing you today to comment on the state of our city. We recently have been declared a red zone by the White House, they have suggested guidelines to reduce the spread of COVID-19. The members of the Board were the last ones on board for the mask mandate. You wanted to risk the health of Kansans with your personal opinion on health, instead of listening to the 13 doctors that testified. Start putting the health of our citizens first and not your personal feelings about masks. Follow the lead of Governor Laura Kelly, and Health Director Minns and openly support the safety measures they are trying to enforce.

I am asking that you implement the guidelines provided by the White House. I am asking that you help reduce the spread, help protect workers, families, and citizens of this state. I am asking that you choose the right side of history

Sincerely,

A very concerned Kansan,  
Abby Jurgensmeier Carney”

**Name:**

Emily Hamburg

**Contact Information:**

emilythora@hotmail.com

**Received By:**

This comment was received through communications email

**Subject:**

Public Comments for Tomorrow

**Comment:**

“Good Afternoon,

Please include my public comment below at the meeting of commissioners tomorrow morning.

“I want to express my strong opposition to the latest proposal for more arbitrary restrictions on individuals and businesses. The initial premise for this coercive shutdown was to ‘flatten the curve’ and not overwhelm hospitals. Now, as the goal posts have continually shifted, we’re just destroying our businesses, mental health, trust in our neighbors, and events and customs that make life worth living beyond just a biological level and my whole lifetime as a resident here so rich. Avoiding this virus is only one consideration as we each assess various risks and trade-offs based on our values. I urge each of you to reject this latest assault on our freedom and the chaos that it is creating in the lives of the good people of this county.

Sincerely,

Emily Hamburg

Bel Aire, KS

Sent from my iPhone”

**Name:**

Lisa Cruze

**Contact Information:**

[lisa.cruze@cox.net](mailto:lisa.cruze@cox.net)

**Received By:**

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

**Subject:**

Mask Mandate

**Comment:**

“I resent being lied to that masks are going to make any difference at all. From the studies that I have read, masks don't work. I would think that you are aware of the past studies that have been done on masks in years past, and they all conclude that they don't work for stopping viruses. Don't lie to the public and expect us to believe you.”

**Name:**

Dariah Ballinger

**Contact Information:**

dariah.little@gmail.com

**Received By:**

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

**Subject:**

Closing of bars and nightclubs

**Comment:**

“I have worked as a bartender in our community for 7 years. While some places may not be following mask mandates and social distancing guidelines, there are others that have complied with every suggestion and rule. It’s unfair to close down all bars, when all bars are not the same. It’s unfair to close down all bars, but allow all other businesses to remain open. The bars I work at have limited capacity and enforced the mask rules. I still see people at Walmart, Dillon’s, etc. who are wearing masks inappropriately, not at all, or who take them off when they get inside of the store. How is this fair?! How am I supposed to provide for my family? When is this going to end? When the businesses I work for close?! This effects many jobs!”

**Name:**

James Barlow

**Contact Information:**

dr.jamesfbarlowiv@gmail.com

**Received By:**

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

**Subject:**

Recommendations concerning bar closures

**Comment:**

“Your average local bar/venue is not likely to be a major player in the spread of Covid. These local businesses are vital to local economy and local citizens. We should target larger night clubs in old town where 100's congregate as opposed to smaller neighborhood bars/ venues that rarely see more than 40 patrons an evening. Social distancing and masks are easily practiced in such places without having to shut these establishments down. The owners, employees, and various artists that used such businesses can not withstand the financial blow that a closure would mean to their business or feeding their families.”

**Name:**

Colt Callison

**Contact Information:**

coltcallison@gmail.com

**Received By:**

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

**Subject:**

Further Restrictions?

**Comment:**

“I find it very hard to believe the Health Officer when he made his case today that cases are continuing to rise. Dr. Minns, in his opening statement said that cases continue to increase at a higher rate, and will soon overwhelm the health providers. When asked by Commissioner Howell if the mask order is not working, he then switched by saying the numbers have "plateaued" since the order. Of course he was trying to defend his previous "order", but it cannot be both ways. If the mask mandate was working (as he tried alluding to) then why the additional mandate? If they are not working, why do we continue to require them throughout Sedgwick County. It's time the Board of Commissioners quit hiding behind Dr. Minns and lead this county.”

**Name:**

Zac Rasmussen

**Contact Information:**

Lespaul1410@gmail.com

**Received By:**

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

**Subject:**

Closing bars

**Comment:**

“You need a plan to take care of all of these people that are affected by the closings. If you dont have a plan to take care of them then dont close them.”

**Name:**

Kisskina Dewitt

**Contact Information:**

Kisskinadewitt@yahoo.com

**Received By:**

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

**Subject:**

School and mask mandate

**Comment:**

“Please fully open schools. Get rid of this awful mask mandate. I struggle with health issues and have a hard time wearing a mask in stores.”

**Name:**

Peggy Haukap

**Contact Information:**

peggyh1@cox.net

**Received By:**

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

**Subject:**

Oppressive orders

**Comment:**

“I can no longer stay silent on what is happening to our freedom and liberty. Stop using rising rates to continue to destroy lives. Death rates are down, and besides, at this time, death is preferable to this madness. People cannot live this way. You can't force more people out of jobs, or to comply to mandates that are not proven. Masks do not work, if you think they do? Then let the people who want to wear them wear them. I'm not required to descend into poverty for people who are fearful. If you're sick stay home. I refuse to get a vaccine to make you safer. I refuse to socially isolate myself to make you feel safer. THE CURE CANNOT BE WORSE THAN THE DISEASE. STOP THE MADNESS”

**Name:**

Shana Wurth

**Contact Information:**

shanawurth@gmail.com

**Received By:**

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

**Subject:**

New Mandate Dr. Minns

**Comment:**

“Dr. Minns stated today, that cases continue to rise and that is the reason for the mandate on bars and restaurants. Later, when asked if masks are working, he said cases have plateaued..so which is it ?? Because if they have plateaued then bars and businesses should not be shut down, masks are working. If cases are continuing to rise, then why the mask ordinance?? Can't have it both ways. Board please step up and lead as you are our elected officials”

**Name:**

Thomas Moore, MD

**Contact Information:**

tmoore@idckansas.com

**Received By:**

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

**Subject:**

coVid19 order from Dr. Minns

**Comment:**

“Dr. Minns’ order needs to be supported in the interests of public health”

**Name:**

Christi Kidd

**Contact Information:**

Kiddland@gmail.com

**Received By:**

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

**Subject:**

New mandates.

**Comment:**

“Here we go again...another unelected bureaucrat making decisions that should not be his to make. We didn't elect him and his mandates and restrictions are like taxation without representation. As business owners and individuals we are tired of being mandated to like little children who can't make responsible decisions. Free the county from the tyranny. Let businesses do what they need to do to survive. Let individuals be responsible for themselves. Stop limiting our gatherings and forcing us to postpone important life events. We can mitigate the risk and accept the responsibility. Furthermore where is the date showing exactly how many are hospitalized in our county and how many icu beds are in use. Cases does not equal deaths. - Fed Up!”

**Name:**

Kaytie Brozek

**Contact Information:**

kaytie.brozek@gmail.com

**Received By:**

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

**Subject:**

Public Comment: COVID-19

**Comment:**

“I am writing in support of increasing COVID-19 precautions in our county and city. As a resident of Sedgwick county, I have been essentially sheltering in place, working from home, ordering necessities online for delivery or store pick-up since mid-March. I'm wearing a mask gladly in an effort to do my part in getting back to normal. I am listening and reading as much information as I can in an attempt to make educated and informed decisions for the health and safety of not only myself and family but my larger community. I greatly miss doing and seeing the people and places that I love, that make life worth living. However, there are many who have not been living with as much caution and are now freely spreading the disease within our community. We have let politics trump science and lives are being forever changed. Leadership needs to step in for the better interest of all and mandate and enforce stronger social distancing, temporary business closures,

and mask policies. Clearly we, as a society, are not able to behave for the greater good and now you, who have the power to protect, have a charge to do so.

I understand it is hard, I understand we live in a capitalist society. While I support small and local businesses, I understand that part of capitalism means that the strong businesses survive and the weak businesses will fold. I would much rather see a small business fold, than to see someone lose their life or risk permanent health damage. An alive former business owner or employee can seek employment elsewhere, while a dead or disabled one cannot. A vote by the county board that does not tighten restrictions nor develop a science-based solution is simply a vote against human life.

Kaytie Brozek

Wichita Resident”

**Name:**

Kenzie Alizabeth

**Contact Information:**

kenziealizabeth@gmail.com

**Received By:**

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

**Subject:**

Public Comment

**Comment:**

“Good afternoon,

I am emailing you today to comment on the state of our city. We recently have been declared a red zone by the White House, they have suggested guidelines to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

The members of the Board were the last ones on board for the mask mandate. You wanted to risk the health of Kansans with your personal opinion on health, instead of listening to the 13 doctors that testified. Start putting the health of our citizens first and not your personal feelings about masks. Follow the lead of Governor Laura Kelly, and Health Director Minns and openly support the safety measures they are trying to enforce.

I am asking that you implement the guidelines provided by the White House. I am asking that you help reduce the spread, help protect workers, families, and citizens of this state. I am asking that you choose the right side of history

Sincerely,

Kenzie Borland

A very concerned Kansan”

**Name:**

Susan Smith

**Contact Information:**

mzmarvls@gmail.com

**Received By:**

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

**Subject:**

Continued/New Covid-19 Restrictions

**Comment:**

"As a long time citizen and taxpayer in this wonderful country of ours, I am deeply disturbed that our state and local governments are rapidly removing all of our civil liberties over the Covid 19 "Pandemic."

It is not only my opinion, but the opinion of all I have conversed with in discussions concerning the matter, that our governments do NOT have our best interests in mind when they remove the freedoms of owning a "successful" business, freedoms of socialization-even in venues for funerals, weddings, and religious worshipping, "requiring" mask wearing of law abiding citizens, enforcing strict rules in ensuring compliance of all restrictions decided upon by our public officials who work for the citizens who elected them.

Removing our freedoms in these aforementioned areas of our lives is just the beginning, we fear, of a path for the government to gradually increase its control over all our civil liberties and freedoms we should be enjoying under our Constitution.

Saving our economy and future of this country is as important as handling the coronavirus. The backbone of the success of being an American is being ignored while the numbers of those infected with the virus vs deaths is being manipulated by government and the biased media.

It is time for our government to ensure that we are able to enjoy our freedoms and civil liberties in the pursuit of happiness as provided in the United States Constitution. Our country must remain a republic with the benefit of capitalism and not fall to the socialistic ideas that so many are claiming to be in the best interest of all. They do not know what they are fighting for. I am fighting for our freedoms.

Susan Smith”

**Name:**

Justin Brown

**Contact Information:**

ictshamrock@gmail.com

**Received By:**

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

**Subject:**

Outside Bar

**Comment:**

“Hello- this question is for the commissioners to consider during their meeting tomorrow regarding Dr Minnes order. During the first shut down I created an outdoor bar at my establishment- Shamrock Lounge. It has various features to encourage social distancing and a safe environment for my patrons. Dedicated entrance and exit, 6 feet of distancing from table to table, a dedicated “window” where they are served so staff isn’t “circulating” through the crowd, plastic disposable cups, dedicated bathrooms etc etc. The size alone of the patio makes “space” easy to obtain. I’ve seen this built and allowed in such markets as New York. So my question is: would I be allowed an exemption to stay operational for this spacious and safe space? Thanks”

**Name:**

Yolanda Thomas

**Contact Information:**

Timandyo@hotmail.com

**Received By:**

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

**Subject:**

No More Restrictions!

**Comment:**

“Do not add anymore restrictions! We need to keep our economy going! We do not know ANYONE with this virus nor do we know anyone who KNOWS anyone! It is not as terrible as the media is pushing! Please use common sense and allow residents of your county to do what is best for their families!”