

Answers to Questions and Comments from the Public

Platte County Health Department Board of Trustees

Board Meeting of May 20, 2020

Notes: Some of the comments and questions are paraphrased to summarize the point of the comment or question.

Any Orders or Plans from the Platte County Health Department apply only to those areas of Platte County outside the city limits of Kansas City, Missouri. For those areas of Platte County in Kansas City, Orders and Plans from the Kansas City Health Department apply.

Jon Bushman:

What is the objective of contact tracing? Is the objective containment? I don't like the idea of giving up my name and phone number because I don't understand the purpose. What is the health department going to do with that information? If we don't have a defined objective, why are we doing it?

Board of Trustees:

You are not required by the health department to provide contact information. Businesses are encouraged to maintain a record of employees and clients who have close contact to one another in the event an illness or outbreak associated with that business occurs. We are not collecting personal information at the health department and will only ask businesses for help in identifying contacts (persons potentially exposed to the virus). Simply passing someone with COVID-19 in the aisle of a grocery store is not considered contact unless you remained within six feet of that person for an extended period of time (ten minutes is generally what is used to define "extended period of time", but may differ if the ill person coughs on you, for example). The goal is to inform clients that they may have been exposed to the virus as quickly as possible so that they can take appropriate action to prevent the spread of the virus to others.

The purpose of contact tracing is to trace and monitor contacts of infected people and notify them of their exposure. This helps ensure the effective quarantine of contacts to prevent additional transmission. For more information please click on [this link](#).

Wes Minder:

I had a hard time finding the agenda on the website. The Board's requirement that the public must give two-week's notice to be allowed to comment is not very accommodating and creates angst, especially when you post the agenda only 24 hours in advance. Posting agendas in advance and providing information from previous meetings on the website so citizens may learn what's going on would be helpful.

Board of Trustees:

The board is reviewing this policy and an update will be provided soon. The Board will be as transparent as possible and additional information will be continually added to the Board's webpage on our website. The Board's webpage may be [viewed here](#).

Scott Monsees:

I've heard good reports of good communication with the Schools, so I am pleased with that. But I am concerned with our kids being out of school. I would like Park Hill School District to have in-person

Summer School. I know the School District wants to be safe and not take any unnecessary risks, but it appears the risk of complications from this disease is lower on folks under the age of 55. I encourage you to continue to work with the School Districts to allow them to start in-person Summer School on July 1st.

Board of Trustees:

The Director and Deputy Director have had ongoing discussions and virtual meetings with all School Districts in the County. Currently the Department is assisting all School Districts with Summer School guidance. For example, on May 21, the Director, Deputy Director, and Epidemiology Specialist met virtually with the Park Hill Superintendent and District Leadership Staff. These meetings will continue to occur indefinitely.

Nancy Womack:

In the beginning, we all agreed to stay home and take other mitigation measures to flatten the curve. Now, you want us to eradicate the disease. Platte County's extremely low numbers do not warrant the overreach of reopening plans. The sports restrictions are outrageous. And defining churches as a non-essential business and not letting people getting together based on a percentage of the building occupancy limit is just not right. The requirement should be social distancing. The other thing that makes people angry is when you end up putting the responsibility for someone's death on businesses. You know what, maybe someone will die. But that has never been the goal. The goal was mitigation and now the goal has changed. I would like to know why we have changed our protocol?

Board of Trustees:

In our Order, Places of Worship are defined as essential. Places of Worship are allowed to operate under the same building occupancy limits as retail businesses. You're right. Physical distancing is a very important mitigation measure that must be taken everywhere if we want to stop this Pandemic.

In hindsight, we believe it was a mistake made throughout the Nation to define businesses as essential or non-essential. All types of businesses are essential to the owners and operators of those businesses.

The phrase "flattening the curve" was used nationally as a marketing tool to explain to the public why it's important to comply with mitigation measures. Monitoring epidemiological data is an ongoing and complex process. The criteria used to determine when it's appropriate to move through Steps and Phases in our Reopening Plan was taken from the White House Plan. Those criteria include:

SYMPTOMS:

a. Downward trajectory of influenza-like illnesses (ILI) reported within a 14-day period,

AND

b. Downward trajectory of COVID-like syndromic cases reported within a 14-day period,

AND CASES:

a. Downward trajectory of documented cases within a 14-day period, OR

b. Downward trajectory of positive tests as a percent of total tests within a 14-day period (flat or increasing volume of tests),

AND HOSPITALS:

a. Able to treat all patients without crisis care, AND

b. Robust testing program in place for at-risk healthcare workers, including (when ready) emerging antibody tests.

More information about these criteria is included later in this document.

Todd Fane:

I am asking you to seriously consider the impact of the Reopening Plan. I want to make sure we can mitigate the economic damage but also balance the goal that we protect those that are at higher risk. I believe it's critical that we use data to keep us moving forward.

Board of Trustees:

We agree with you. The Health Department continually assesses data as it becomes available to us, including testing data, the 7-day moving average positivity rate, hospitalization data, and syndromic surveillance data, to name a few. The Board is very aware of the economic damage the pandemic has caused. Four of the Board Members are current or former small business owners and the fifth has spent her career working in medical practices, large and small. Board Members have experienced the economic damage on a very personal level. Public health and the economy aren't exclusive of one another. Please check out the paper [*Pandemics Depress the Economy, Public Health Interventions Do Not: Evidence from the 1918 Flu.*](#)

Scott Fricker:

Note: In order to present the Board's responses in an organized manner, Mr. Fricker's questions and comments are numbered and the Board's responses are numbered in a corresponding fashion.

1. Can you explain to me why we can't meet in person? The (audio problems during the May 20 GoToMeeting) are a perfect example of why we should meet in person.
2. You say your order is the same as the State's and that if you didn't have your order, we would revert back to the State's order and it would be essentially the same. I suggest that you revoke your order and let us go back to the State's order.
3. What you really should be doing is focusing on the growing public health issues like hunger, domestic abuse, alcoholism, suicide prevention and all the other problems caused by this shutdown.
4. What metrics are you using to get to the next steps? Are you looking at positive cases or positive test percentages? Are you looking at numbers for Platte County? Are you looking at the nine-county metro area? The state? The information that you have on your website doesn't help us figure out where we are compared to where we need to be. People need to have hope, which means you need to give us information. The federal guidelines call for one of two things to move to the next step. Either a 14-day declining trend in total daily cases or a 14-day declining trend in the percentage of tests that are positive. Give us these exact metrics and give us the data that you are using to track that metric and make decisions or we'll assume you're trying to hide that information from us.
5. If Platte county had a higher than average number of cases and fatalities, I could see having your own guidelines, but that's not the case. We don't have a crisis in our county, we never did and we never will. I am calling on you tonight to revoke your order immediately.

PCHD Board:

1. The May 19 meeting was rescheduled on the advice of public officials outside of our agency. Also, it became apparent that the crowd size was likely to exceed the Health Department's own recommendations regarding capacity limits, making physical distancing impossible. We don't want to encourage the very behavior we're asking the public to avoid. We've had preliminary discussions about having a future meeting outdoors so that the public can more

easily address the Board in person. The audio problems during the May 20 meeting were caused in part by a desire of several Health Department officials to utilize their own electronic devices. Too many electronic devices in close proximity to one another caused interference. We're sorry that happened and we won't make that mistake again.

2. In comparing Platte County's Plan to Missouri's Recovery Plan, the language about restaurant capacity limits and the language about retail businesses limited to 10% or 25% of the building occupancy limit based on the size of the building was taken directly from the State's Order. Missouri's Order, which they refer to as Phase 1 of reopening, expires on May 31 as does ours. Missouri remains under a State of Emergency until June 15, which corresponds to Phase 2, Step 2 in our Plan. So there are many similarities in the two plans. Our plan is longer than the State's because the public demanded more detail than Missouri's Plan offers. Residents asked for more guidance regarding swimming pools, gyms, fitness centers, youth sports, and many other types of businesses. We did our best to give some guidance, but referred them to industry guidance in developing their own reopening plans. Platte County is in a major metropolitan area, and like counties in other metropolitan areas in the State, our Plan is more robust than the State's. Typically, regulations and orders in rural areas are less stringent than those in urban and suburban areas. Communicable diseases spread much more easily in more densely populated areas. Several zip codes in Platte County have higher populations than many of the counties in Missouri.
3. The Board is very concerned about the public health issues you mentioned and will continue to promote and support organizations like Harvesters, as well as the many food pantries in the County. The Health Department played a lead role in the implementing SOS Signs of Suicide programs in our schools and has led in promoting Resilience activities in the community. We are very cognizant of the public health issues the Pandemic has caused beyond just physical health. We've partnered with Tri-County Mental Health Services for years in prevention activities and provide office space to a TCMHS Counselor in our Parkville clinic.
4. The criteria used to determine when it's appropriate to move to the next step are in the Health Department's Reopening Plan, which is available on our website. The criteria were taken from the White House Reopening Plan. Here are those criteria:

SYMPTOMS:

- a. Downward trajectory of influenza-like illnesses (ILI) reported within a 14-day period,
AND
- b. Downward trajectory of COVID-like syndromic cases reported within a 14-day period,

AND CASES:

- a. Downward trajectory of documented cases within a 14-day period, OR
- b. Downward trajectory of positive tests as a percent of total tests within a 14-day period (flat or increasing volume of tests),

AND HOSPITALS:

- a. Able to treat all patients without crisis care, AND
- b. Robust testing program in place for at-risk healthcare workers, including (when ready) emerging antibody tests.

A chart showing the daily number of cases reported is on our website and has been for several weeks. The chart shows an upward trajectory in the number of cases reported and that trend

is not due to expanded testing. About half of those cases are associated with a long-term care facility and the Triumph Plant in St. Joe. The others are community spread, sometimes associated with workplace outbreaks.

The case count is important information because each case represents a person. A chart showing the 7-day moving average positivity rate was added to the website on May 22. Thank you for the suggestion. Many of the graphs on our website are there because residents requested them.

The 7-day moving average positivity rate is a valuable tool Public Health uses to assess the prevalence of the virus in the community. A high % positivity rate may also indicate that not enough testing is being done in a community and that too much emphasis is placed on testing only symptomatic people. To get an accurate picture of the prevalence in the community, both asymptomatic and symptomatic persons should be tested on a large-scale basis. Testing of both symptomatic and asymptomatic persons has been available in Platte County for several weeks. While a near-zero % positivity rate is ideal, a % positivity rate below 5% is encouraging. The % positivity rate was trending down through the week ending May 6, but is now trending upward.

Some good news is that a robust testing program is in place for at-risk healthcare workers and more. Also, hospitals have been able to treat patients without crisis care throughout the Pandemic and continue to be able to do so. The best sources of hospitalization data can be found through the following links, which are all available on our website:

[KC Region COVID-19 Resource Hub](#)

[# of CASES IN MISSOURI](#)

[SEMA DAILY BRIEF](#) - Hospital utilization data is usually found between pages 6-10.

5. Here's a link to county-specific data regarding COVID-19 cases in Missouri. There the user can see how Platte County compares. The link to Missouri's COVID-19 Dashboard is available on our website. From there you can access this information as well:

[COVID-19 Cases in Missouri](#)

Janet Smart:

What is essential? The dictionary defines it as something basic and indispensable. I think several things are essential:

1st our civil liberties under the Constitution;

2nd freedom of religion; and

3rd our jobs.

You demanded our churches close in the name of public health. Our civil liberties are indeed, essential. They should not be treated as non-essential. I agree we should save every life possible, but in the last 2½ months, we've lost 28,000 babies because abortion clinics were also deemed essential. The Platte County Health Department should reconsider what is essential to the spiritual, physical, mental, and emotional health and well-being of all Platte County citizens. It is time to fully open our church's and businesses. Give the American people credit to decide what is best for their families.

Board of Trustees:

We agree with your list of essential freedoms and liberties. And we desperately want to see the economy return to pre-Pandemic levels to ensure item #3 on your list. The Health Department works diligently to educate young people and adults on how to prevent unplanned pregnancies. When unplanned pregnancies occur, the Health Department works diligently to ensure the mother has access to prenatal care. We partner with Parkville Women's Clinic toward that end.

We agree that Places of Worship are essential and we will never interfere with anyone's freedom to practice their religion, whether it be in a church, synagogue, mosque, temple, or any other place where people choose to worship. In our Order, Places of Worship are defined as essential. Places of Worship are allowed to operate under the same building occupancy limits as retail businesses.

Paula Owens:

I'm in the wedding business, and everything in my world has been rescheduled. Refer to page 4 of the Recovery Plan, which states, "Step may be allowed to begin as soon as June 1, 2020". The vagueness regarding dates makes it difficult for my business because there's so much involved in planning for brides and their families. We can live with some boundaries, but I would really like to see some concrete dates. I know in the long run these were made out of caution but you need to consider the precedent that has been set here and for the future of the County and for the next generation. Throwing rights aside is a really bad precedent.

Board of Trustees:

We agree that the uncertainty about when the County will move to the next Step or Phase is very unsettling and upsetting. While we can explain the reasons those dates aren't set in stone, that won't help with easing uncertainty. Instead, the Board will focus on finding a new approach in how The Plan is administered. The Board will hold a Work Session at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, May 26, which the public will be able to observe. An agenda with instructions for viewing the Work Session will be posted on the Board's webpage, which may be [viewed here](#).

Gerri Laudie:

I'm a business owner in Riverside serving 700 families of children. We serve the lowest risk population. CDC put out a statement today saying the coronavirus does not spread easily via contaminated surfaces, so the worry about contaminated surfaces was unnecessary. Sports are important to our children and 45 minutes (at the December 12 Special Board Meeting) was spent discussing how the Board can take away youth sports from our kids. A decision was tabled for one more week. One more week matters. Is that the day the little 14-year old down the street watches porn for the 1st time because he's bored because he has no outlet? Is that the day the little girl down the street starts vaping? Is that the day I shut my business down because I can't afford to stay open anymore, and then I get my car repossessed? One more week matters and your lack of compassion was very disturbing. I want to move on and explain how your restrictions are affecting my business. We're expected to run our business on zero or 10% of our income. That's unacceptable when the risk is no longer there. When are you going to remove restrictions so businesses and employees can get back to work? And far more importantly, when can our children get back to being children?

Board of Trustees:

The Board understands the importance of Youth Sports. Each of us are deeply affected by the weight of our decisions and the impact those decisions have on our friends and neighbors.

We also saw the CDC report you cited regarding surface spread. Based on that report, the decision was made to allow for the sharing of baseballs, basketballs, volleyballs, and other balls or batons used in sports.

The Director and the Assistant Director have met with Leadership from the Platte County Sports Commission and have developed a positive, productive relationship. The Sports Commission is acting as the liaison between youth sports organizations and the Health Department as the organizations develop their own reopening plans. The Sports Commission and Health Department jointly developed universal guidance for the organizations to use in creating those plans. This relationship is an example of the approach we all need to take as we battle this crisis together. As mentioned earlier in this document, the Health Department has similar relationships with School Districts in the County. The Pandemic and the virus that caused it are the enemy. We must be united in our fight to end it.

Tammy Thompson:

I'm a Pharmacist in the County. We've flattened the curve and not overwhelmed our healthcare system. We've yet to know what long-term effects the shutdown will cause. I weigh the risk vs. the benefits of therapy for a patient. This risk vs. benefit approach needs to be taken when you're evaluating restrictions in the County. I don't understand the logic of 10% capacity because when I go to the stores, they are full and occupancy restrictions are just now in place. If we only shut down in one week or two-week phases to allow businesses to comply with social distancing requirements, we could be in Phase 2, Step 3 by now. I have a problem with the statement that until a vaccine or a therapy is available, distancing will be required. We don't know if a vaccine or therapy will ever be available. We don't know how effective the vaccine will be, and some people won't get the vaccine if it is available. What does a robust surveillance system entail? To get to Phase 3 we need to get to minimal active cases. What is your definition of minimal active cases? What is the percentage of the population that is considered minimal and what is considered a surge? I appreciate you posting the number of tests being done, but there's not a graph or anything to show us if there is a downward trend when that's a number we need to look at. Also, I would like to see the hospitalization rate.

Board of Trustees:

We agree with you regarding the importance of analyzing risk vs. benefit when making decisions about how we move forward. Some of your points regarding that have been addressed earlier in this document.

We believe a robust surveillance system and a robust testing program are in place. Can we improve surveillance and testing? Absolutely. We also know that hospitals have been able to treat patients without crisis care throughout the Pandemic and continue to be able to do so. Hospitalization data can be found through the following links, which are all available on our website:

[KC Region COVID-19 Resource Hub](#)

[# of CASES IN MISSOURI](#)

[SEMA DAILY BRIEF](#) - Hospital utilization data is usually found between pages 6-10.

Data regarding COVID-19 cases in Missouri is available through the [Department of Health and Senior Services' Dashboard](#). There, you can find additional hospitalization data as well as testing data, and

county-specific data. Regional hospital data is available through the [KC Region COVID-19 Resource Hub](#).

As mentioned earlier, a chart showing the 7-day moving average positivity rate was added to the website on May 22. The % positivity rate was trending down through the week ending May 6, but is now trending upward. The case count is trending upward as well.

There are promising developments regarding vaccines and therapies. At this point it's unclear how long immunity from a vaccine may last. New information is coming available continually and our plans evolve quickly as well. As mentioned earlier, the Board will have a Work Session on May 26 to determine how we move forward.

Russel Wojtkiewicz:

We feel like we are being robbed of our government rights and the Board has not been particularly transparent. I've been here 35 years and I never remember voting for a Health Board Member. If they are unopposed, they never appear on the ballot. We never knew there was an election to be held. This is absurd. I've contacted the Secretary of State's office today and I am looking to change that unless you change the rules. At least put your name on the ballot, opposed or unopposed. My numbers are a little out-of-date, but it's still about 1% of our population. Looks like all the people on the Advisory Board are still getting a paycheck. I would bet that we're going to lose more people to car accidents, opioid overdoses, possibly even murders than we do from this virus. Let people make the decision for themselves. And frankly, these decisions being made by people who are unelected is out of control and needs to change. Open the County up tomorrow and make the Board elections more transparent so the people we hire are the people the tax payers are paying for.

Board of Trustees:

Each time a Health Department question or election is placed on the ballot, the Health Department must pay its share of the cost of that election. The amount varies by election, but the cost ranges between \$17,000 and \$29,000. PCHD follows the requirements established by the Missouri Statute listed below for the Platte County Board of Trustees elections, with reporting to the Platte County Board of Elections. We advertise the election in a local newspaper as required and have had elections in the following years (April 2007, April 2015, April 2016, and April 2019). The PCHD Board of Trustees terms are for four years as established by the Bylaws of the Platte County Health Department. The following language is from Revised Statutes of Missouri.

115.124. Nonpartisan election in political subdivision or special district, no election required if number of candidates filing is same as number of positions to be filled — exceptions — random drawing filing procedure followed when election is required — municipal elections, certain municipalities may submit requirements of subsection 1 to voters. —

1. Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, in a nonpartisan election in any political subdivision or special district including municipal elections in any city, town, or village with two thousand or fewer inhabitants that have adopted a proposal pursuant to subsection 3 of this section but excluding municipal elections in any city, town, or village with more than two thousand inhabitants, if the notice provided for in subsection 5 of section 115.127 has been published in at least one newspaper of general circulation as defined in section 493.050 in the district, **and if the number of candidates for each office in a particular political subdivision, special district, or municipality is equal to the number of positions for each office within the political subdivision, special district, or municipality to be filled by the election and no ballot measure is placed on the ballot such that a particular political subdivision will owe no proportional elections costs if an election is not held, no election shall be held, and the candidates shall assume the responsibilities of their**

offices at the same time and in the same manner as if they had been elected. If no election is held for a particular political subdivision, special district, or municipality as provided in this section, the election authority shall publish a notice containing the names of the candidates that shall assume the responsibilities of office under this section. Such notice shall be published in at least one newspaper of general circulation as defined in section 493.050 in such political subdivision or district by the first of the month in which the election would have occurred, had it been contested. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, if at any election the number of candidates filing for a particular office exceeds the number of positions to be filled at such election, the election authority shall hold the election as scheduled, even if a sufficient number of candidates withdraw from such contest for that office so that the number of candidates remaining after the filing deadline is equal to the number of positions to be filled.

Abby Olson:

I am sure you all are nice people. This is simply a pushback against the board's decisions. We needed to flatten the curve, and this is a terrible disease. if we knew then what we know now would we have closed everything like we did? I don't think we would have especially when you look at the numbers in Platte County. Our trust dissipated when we learned there was faulty information, and there were bad models and many medical disagreements. I am hearing that hospitals and things needed masks and I made about 200 of them. I am now told it only protects against 2% but it protects 98% if both people are wearing masks so we don't know what to believe anymore. It's and either or. Either we stay home and be safe or go out and die. The board should be working on how to help the vulnerable. It's a health issue by not allowing people to get out and congregate. And you are going to lose, if you haven't already, you are going to lose the consent of the governed.

Board of Trustees:

Please understand that this COVID 19 virus is a NOVEL virus that we have not dealt with before. So, all officials from the CDC (Centers for Disease Control) and the WHO (World Health Organization) AND local Public Health are learning about the details as we are dealing with it. New information is discovered through the science and study of the treatment of positive cases. So, although some information is deemed "faulty", some of the information changes as more information is learned about the virus. Since this has been declared as a GLOBAL PANDEMIC we would have been negligent to not enact the protections that we did early on to protect the health of the public in Platte County. Face masks combined with other preventive measures, such as frequent hand-washing and social distancing, help slow the spread of the disease.



So why weren't face masks recommended at the start of the pandemic? At that time, experts didn't yet know the extent to which people with COVID-19 could spread the virus before symptoms appeared. Nor was it known that some people have COVID-19 but don't have any symptoms. Both groups can unknowingly spread the virus to others.

These discoveries led the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to do an about-face on face masks. The CDC updated its guidance to recommend widespread use of simple cloth face coverings to help prevent transmission of COVID-19 by people who have the virus but don't know it.

The Board is “working on how to protect the vulnerable” by recommending that those in the high risk category limit going out into the public where asymptomatic people can share the virus with them and by asking everyone to wear masks to prevent the spread of the virus to others, especially the high risk, most vulnerable of the population.

Joe Becker: I want to encourage the Director and the Board to accelerate Phase 2 and go to Phase 3. The Board's decision to open the County so slowly is destroying our way of life. You've forced 1/3 of our businesses to close; 1/3 of us left to work from home; and 1/3 of us deemed essential. The Platte County Commission approved a budget of \$31,000 against a budget of \$27,000 million on their website. Only thing on the Health Department's website is a glossary of an Annual Report. One sheet that notes where the approximately \$3 million comes from. The Health Department, Parks, Fire, Security, and responsibilities come from taxes. It's my opinion they stand to lose a significant amount of revenue because of the virus. And everything in our County will suffer.

Board of Trustees:

Our Reopening Plan follows the guidance of the National Plan to “Open Up America”. In a time of a Pandemic, where there has been limited testing, very few treatment options and no vaccine for protection it is imperative that we slowly open up the community. As we have seen in work environments where employees work near each other, such as meat processing plants, the virus can spread quickly. If a business were to experience an outbreak, that could cause people to not want to enter their business and thus destroy them financially. Our existing plan is to relax the restrictions as soon as every two weeks as long as we meet the gating criteria that has been established. Platte County has done well so far and we truly appreciate everyone's efforts to reduce the spread of the virus.

Rita Wiese

Yesterday's truth is not what we are going to hear tomorrow. Even science has been hijacked. There are lots of people with Epidemiology degrees that are speaking out, but they are being silenced because of Facebook and the internet so we are not getting the information that we need to be getting. I've never seen on the ballot where to vote for the Board. I think they need to be on the ballot so we can see who we are voting for. This war on the American people waged with lockdowns, social distancing, and masks makes the American dream disappear. It's dehumanizing to be deemed unessential. When did we go from flattening the curve to no one gets sick? There is no right not to get sick; that's natural. Waiting for vaccine curtails our freedom for a longer period of time. How long are the trials? Who stands to gain? Notice who is funding big pharma. I think we are confusing these advisories as laws. How do you quantify risk? Why don't you tell us how many have recovered instead of how many are sick? Also, in the future, please hold the meetings in person. It's impersonal and hard to look one another in the eye.

Board of Trustees:

The terms essential/unessential were not made to be degrading to any business. “Essential” was meant to describe businesses that are life-sustaining services, such as groceries, health or financial support, or utilities, whereas “Nonessential” businesses are generally recreational in nature.

We know it is unrealistic to expect “no one to get sick” – the purpose of the restrictions was to mitigate the spread of the virus to reduce the impact of the virus and minimize illness.

Determining who has recovered is not as clear cut as it would seem – some of our individuals who tested positive continue to test positive for weeks/months even though their symptoms have subsided.

We hope to hold meetings in person in the near future so that the public can attend. At this time we have to adhere to the same limitations on room capacity as we have recommended to other businesses to prevent mass gatherings of people.

Yummy Pandolfi:

You are the doc and Platte County is your patient. That puts you in a lose-lose predicament. Some people will blame you for not keeping them safe. Others will blame you as their livelihood is being destroyed. You may think you only have option a or b. Congress shall make no law pertaining to the right to practice religion, the right to peacefully assemble. People have the right to be secure in their own homes, protected from searches and seizures. It’s the job of the government to protect those rights. Platte County Health Department has no right to make any law for that matter. You should make a statement saying people of Platte County are a free people capable of making good decisions for themselves and their families. You don’t have to take on this absurd liability and let anyone push you into becoming an unconstitutional legislative board because that’s what is happening.

Board of Trustees:

Missouri Statute 19 CSR 20-040 gives local health authorities the authority to protect the health of the public from communicable & infectious diseases, up to and including isolation and quarantine.