PILAR HARRIS Administrative Assistant

LINDA K. GRANT County Judge



FAIRFIELD, TEXAS 75840 903-389-3335

COUNTY OF FREESTONE, TEXAS COUNTY JUDGE DIRECTIVE DUE TO PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

Freestone County is actively addressing the COVID-19 risks to our citizens. We are monitoring the situation in our County and are in communication with our Health Authority, emergency management coordinator, first responders, and hospital and city leaders.

At this time the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) is currently reporting NO confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Freestone County. Go to <u>www.dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/testing.aspx</u> for the number of confirmed Texas cases and information showing which counties have confirmed cases.

The next two weeks are important for our County. We are again urging our citizens to stay home except for essential services or essential daily activities, and continue practicing social distancing and washing our hands. By following these practices, we are trying to stop the spread of this disease in our community

Testing for COVID-19 is available but you must be screened first.

Please remember that if you have symptoms, call your Primary Physician first and they will give you instructions or you can call the Freestone Medical Center at 903-389-2181 for further instructions for screening.

For information on COVID-19 and local community resources on health care, utilities, food, and more, call 2-1-1 for the Texas hotline.

The President has extended the deadline for the restrictive social distancing through April 30, 2020.

Tuesday, March 31, 2020, Governor Abbott issued Executive Order GA 14 with new guidelines. Beginning April 2, 2020, every person in Texas shall minimize social gatherings and minimize in-person contact with people who are not in the same household, except where necessary to provide or obtain essential services. This executive order does not prohibit people from accessing essential services or engaging in essential daily activities such as going to the grocery store or gas station, providing or obtaining other essential services, visiting parks, hunting or fishing, or engaging in physical activity like jogging or bicycling, so long as the necessary precautions are maintained to reduce the transmission of COVID-19 and to minimize in-person contact with people who are not in the same household. The entire Executive Order is posted on the county website.

Essential services are listed on the U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security website for the Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers during COVID-19, Version 2.0. This Is also on the County website. The Governor also added religious services to the list of essential services.

It is important to be aware of our mental well-being in these stressful time. If you have concerns about your mental or emotional well-being, you can all the Disaster Distress Helpline at 1-80-985-5990 for access to immediate counseling.

We are urging our citizens to comply with the Governor's Order and with the recommendations of the CDC. We are depending on **YOU**.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

April 1, 2020 5:00 PM

Anda K Grant

Linda K. Grant, Freestone County Judge Freestone County, Texas