

## PRESS RELEASE

March 19, 2020

Russell County Commissioners

Russell County Board of Health

The Russell County Commissioners are engaged in determining the local response to the Coronavirus pandemic (COVID – 19) and assessing the rapidly changing situation. We are relying on advice and expertise of the Russell County Health Department, Russell County Health Officer - Dr. Tyrel Somers, Russell County Attorney - Daniel Krug, and others, in making decisions in mitigating the contagion. We consider health, social and economic factors in determining our actions during these trying times. Not all of our actions in addressing this virus are, or may be popular, but we are dedicated to the health and safety of all of Russell County and its citizens. We would ask that you bear with us until this unfortunate situation passes and we return to some kind of "normalcy." Therefore, on the advice of Russell County Health Officials, Russell County will close all of its offices and departments to the public starting at 5:00 pm on Thursday March 19, 2020 for at least 15 days or until the Russell

County Commissioners re-open to the public. Russell County personnel will continue to work in their respective office and will be available by phone, fax, or email. There is a drop box available on the North-West corner of the Russell County Courthouse where items can be dropped off or payments made to any Russell County Department. Someone will make sure it gets to the right department. If you have any questions, please call the respective office. The Russell County Landfill will remain open at this time. The Russell County Health Department will remain open with limited services, but asks that persons call the office before coming in. The Russell County Sheriff's Office will remain open, but will be limiting non-essential services and will no longer allow inmate visitation.