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Nemaha Co mask mandate rescinded

(KMZA)--A countywide mask mandate in Nemaha County has been rescinded.

The Nemaha County Commission took the action Monday on a 2-1 vote.

Following discussion, new 3rd District Commissioner Dylan Keim moved to rescind the mandate, which had been in place since November 12, and issue a less restrictive order that would strongly recommend the wearings of masks but not require them.

New 2nd District Commissioner Jason Koch joined Keim in approving the motion. Commissioner Gary Soby cast the lone dissenting vote.

Keim said he felt the issue should be left up to each individual and each business owner as to whether or not masks are worn.

Monday marked the first meeting for Keim and Koch, who were elected during the November general election.

Nemaha County Health Officer Jane Sunderland, speaking with Commissioners via Zoom, had recommended the mask mandate be continued for an additional 30-45 days. Sunderland said since passage of the mandate in November, the number of active cases of COVID-19 in the county has decreased steadily each week. As of Monday, there were 35 active cases.

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