

Doniphan Co asked to impose mask mandate

**(KNZA)--The Doniphan County Commission on Monday was asked to consider imposing a countywide mask mandate to help mitigate the spread of the coronavirus.**

**County Health Officer Dr. Bradley Gaul sent a letter to Commissioners making the request.**

**Gaul said Doniphan County remains a “ hot” county, with the number of COVID cases continuing to rise, and said its likely to get worse during the upcoming winter months.**

**He noted several surrounding counties and communities have imposed mask mandates.**

**Commissioners took the request under consideration and tabled action until their November 23 meeting.**

**At the request of Health Department/Home Health Administrator Sheryl Pierce, Commissioners approved one-time pay adjustments for county health department employees for the extra responsibilities they have taken on due to the COVID-19 pandemic**

**The pay adjustments will range from \$250 to \$5,000, with the funding coming from a nearly \$21,000 grant from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.**

**The remainder of the funding will be deposited into the health department account to hire part-time temporary contact tracers and to offset future overtime expenses for COVID-19 response.**