

Hiawatha Hospital staff receive COVID vaccine

(KNZA)--About 60 percent of the staff at the Hiawatha Community Hospital received the first dose of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine last month, and the second round of doses of the vaccine is to be delivered this week.

Hospital CEO John Broberg provided an update to the Brown County Commission Monday.

The hospital received the vaccine December 16 and the first doses were administered December 17-18.

In addition, Broberg said the hospital received a shipment of the Moderna vaccine last week and the first doses were administered to employees wishing to receive the vaccine beginning last Thursday. Moderna's policy is to take the second shot 28 days after receiving the first.

When done, Broberg said he's hopeful 80 percent of the staff will have been vaccinated.

In other business, Commission Chairman Dwight Kruse informed his fellow commissioners that County Emergency Management Director Don Pounds reported 218 COVID tests were conducted last week at the free drive-through clinic held in Horton.

The Commission also approved a resolution extending the county public health emergency declaration due to the COVID-19 pandemic for 60 days.

Many Signals Communications