March 25, 2020

Dear Hertford County Citizens:

On Thursday, March 19, 2020, the Board of Commissioners issued a State of Emergency Proclamation for Hertford County. The purpose for the State of Emergency was for the County to be able to receive additional resources for the County collaborating with federal, state and local agencies. At this time, the State of Emergency Proclamation does not include a curfew nor sales limitations. To view the proclamation, or if you have COVID-19 questions, please visit our website www.hertfordcountync.gov, Facebook and the local newspaper where we are sharing important information.

Hertford County has one positive lab confirmed result reported for the coronavirus (COVID-19) to date. Reports of influenza, allergies, and pneumonia have been reported in our County as well. In response, Hertford County Government has taken the necessary health precautions for our facilities and will continue to be proactive in its approach to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Effective Wednesday, March 25, 2020 at 8:30 a.m., Hertford County Government will be limiting access (by the public) to the Department of Social Services, Building Inspections and Public Works (Utilities) to by appointment only. The limitations implemented by the Department of Aging remain in place. Solid Waste will reopen the Millennium Saint John Road Convenience Site location by the end of this week. All other County offices will remain open to the public. (These limitations do not apply to State agencies occupying County provided office space). This is a local government administrative action, which we are taking as a Board to comply with Governor Roy Cooper’s Executive Order No. 120, Additional Limitations on Mass Gatherings, Restrictions on Venues and Long-Term Care Facilities, and Extension of School Closure Date, issued March 23, 2020 and effective 5:00 p.m. on March 25, 2020. We encourage all citizens to follow all Executive Orders issued by Governor Cooper’s office.

Through collaborative efforts of our EMS Team as well as the Sheriff’s Office, we are keeping in contact with our local public health and state agencies. In the midst of this challenging time, to help slow the spread of the coronavirus, as a Board, we encourage all Hertford County residents to continue to adhere to social distancing, limiting your involvement in large gatherings (50-person limit), conducting business by phone or online or by scheduled appointment whenever possible. Many area churches have cancelled their regularly scheduled services, some businesses have modified their operational hours to accommodate residents and their employees. In addition, other businesses will be closing their operational hours until further notice is provided by Governor Cooper’s office. Therefore, we encourage you to make certain you know the new operational hours before going to stores or other businesses.

For the latest information to protect your own health, we encourage you to visit Hertford County’s website, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services for up-to-date, accurate information about this pandemic.

Sincerely,
/s/Ronald J. Gatling, Chairman
RJG/drfr