

We have gotten some calls and emails about township annual meetings in this situation.

The memo we have gotten from the ND Attorney General leaves the decision to have or to postpone meetings to the board.

In most cases we have recommended holding the meetings but exercising caution. Have hand sanitizer available to use on the way into the meeting, avoiding any contact. Announce at the conclusion of the meeting that all attendees should wash with soap and water before leaving.

Most turnouts are normally small anyway and under the circumstance, not too many casual observers will show up. I would also imagine the tension will prompt attendees to keep it to business and get out of there again quickly.

The virus risk is not greatly increased as long as the attendees are the normal people you deal with in everyday life. We don't normally have people fly in or travel any great distance to attend township meetings. Most won't drive 4 miles..

But, have any of the attendees, or member of their household, been on an airplane or cruise in the last three weeks? That is a concern; you have to know your crowd.

The problem with postponing is, how do you know how far to go? Before long there are going to be farmers in the fields, and it still won't be safe for older people to attend meetings.

This is not going away in a week or two.

Having township meetings in homes is never a good idea, there are liability issues.