

Tourism/Economic Development Committee Report
March 2020

Tourism

March was a very difficult month for not only the county, but the state and country as well. Tourism and travel in Kentucky have been decimated as Governor Andy Beshear has placed strict restrictions on both. All restaurants were required to close or utilize take-out only business models in order to stay open. Most restaurants initially made the choice to stay open and attempt to stem their losses by utilizing the new model. However, by the end of the month, a few had closed their doors and laid off their workers. The typical Elk Lake crowd, a significant percentage of “out-of-town dollars” was also diminished.

Economic Development

March was an eventful month as the Governor implemented his Healthy at Home initiative to combat the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, non-essential businesses were closed. There were no meetings of the Northern Kentucky Area Development District (NKADD), the Owen County Industrial Authority (OCIA) or the Owen County Chamber of Commerce (OCC). Before the initiative was announced, Member Spurgeon attended the Kentucky Magistrates and Commissioners Association Spring Conference. At the conference, Member Spurgeon attended several presentations regarding economic development and tourism. Work continues at the industrial park with build-out of the plant floor for the new company. Production at the facility should begin soon.

/s/ Todd M. Spurgeon, Committee Member

/s/ Chad Rose, Committee Member



Tourism/Economic Development Committee Report
April 2020

Tourism

The COVID-19 pandemic, and the resulting restrictions, continue to strangle tourism in the county. There was a small uptick in visitors as turkey season began and some made the trip to hunt on local farms and wildlife management areas. As the month came to a close, many people began leaving their homes to make smaller trips, but still no significant tourism can be claimed in the county. Governor Beshear announced his plan to re-open the state in phases and the hope is that May will bring positive changes.

Economic Development

In April, the Governor's Healthy at Home initiative continued and non-essential businesses remained closed. There were no meetings of the Northern Kentucky Area Development District (NKADD), the Owen County Industrial Authority (OCIA) or the Owen County Chamber of Commerce (OCC).

/s/ Todd M. Spurgeon, Committee Member

/s/ Chad Rose, Committee Member

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'TMA', written over a diagonal slash line.