

- Gov. said the state is still waiting final direction from the federal government re: funds from the CARES Act (\$1.25 billion)
  - o Discussions with federal officials continue but have not reached a resolution
  - o Gov. said she does not want to grow government just to access the funds
  - o SD will strictly adhere to the guidance received from the Treasury Department once it is finalized
  - o State government is identifying expenses related to Covid response
  - o Gov. is hoping to forward some of the federal funds to SD towns and cities
    - Communities need to track expenses for Covid response including but not limited to: PPE, equipment, telemedicine, remote work costs, keeping people in isolation, emergency response costs, medical response costs and any future expenses
- Kim Malsom-Rysdon (Dept. of Health secretary) – SD will begin mass testing of vulnerable populations next week
  - o Will start testing all nursing home and assisted living center residents and their respective staffs next week
    - Testing is only a snapshot and only gives us an indication of what is going on at that particular point but it will give us a baseline to work from
    - Will do random testing as followup after that
    - Will do testing in tribal communities as well; will start with Sisseton-Wahpeton community in a joint effort with North Dakota
    - Will also test critical infrastructure workers but still working on that plan
    - After testing nursing home and assisted living center residents and staff, mass testing will move on people living in congregate living facilities
    - We believe that we should be able to use federal funds to pay for these tests
- Marcia Hultman (Dept. of Labor secretary) – wants to publicly thank staff at Dept. of Labor
  - o Usually in recession, unemployment insurance (UI) claims ramp up slowly
    - This was an overnight deluge
    - Went from having 11 UI division employees to now having 70 people working on UI claims (have moved other Labor employees over to assist with UI; no new hires and easier/quicker/cheaper to train existing staff)
    - Paid out 23,719 UI claims last week
      - Roughly \$19 million in UI state and federal funds paid last week
- Reporter ?: Any estimate of how many tests will be run for mass testing of nursing homes/assisted living centers and staff?
  - o In the first week, we expect to do 7,400 tests; will target counties that have substantial community spread
  - o In second week, we expect to do a little over 10,000 tests in remaining counties
  - o In third week, expect to do 4,300 in assisted living centers
    - These figures do not count tribal communities and specific employer testing
- Reporter ?: Is there a plan to do tribal community testing beyond Sisseton?
  - o Malsom-Rysdon – Still working through the plan and will have more details next week
    - Cost of testing and processing will be paid by state of SD
- Reporter ?: Will mass testing affect SD's stockpile of testing kits?
  - o Malsom-Rysdon – supply chain has gotten better and supply of PPE is up so we feel confident that we can do this
- Reporter ?: Can you give us an update on communications with Oglala Sioux Tribe and Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe over checkpoints?

- Gov. said the state has sent a plan to each tribe
  - Both tribes are looking at the plan and we are waiting for their response; Gov. is hopeful as neither tribe rejected the proposal immediately
- Followup ? : Some legislators who weighed in on behalf of the tribes last week see the Gov's response as an about face. Your thoughts?
  - I see this as a political attack from Sen. Maher who used to be a Democrat; he has always supported those who have run against me
  - Am disappointed that we are playing politics in these times
- Reporter ? : On a technical point, who owns SD highways? State or federal government? Gov. has said this is really a federal issue-shouldn't tribes be talking to the feds on the checkpoint issue?
  - Gov. said she would appreciate if the feds took charge on this issue
- Reporter ? : If there is no resolution, will SD still file a lawsuit to have the checkpoints taken down?
  - Gov. said that she is hopeful there will be a resolution, that is what we are working towards
- Reporter ? : Should schools be tracking Covid costs similar to what Gov is asking of cities and towns?
  - Gov. said that schools should be tracking those expenses and hopes to reimburse schools from the federal funds in the CARES Act
- Reporter ? : Will the number of positive tests increase as state utilizes mass testing?
  - Gov. said that is to be expected that when we test more, we will find more positive cases; once we identify those who test positive, we can move to quarantine/isolate people with the virus more quickly in an effort to slow the spread of the virus
- Reporter ? : How will Gov. use the federal funds in the CARES Act?
  - Gov. said she hopes to use the funds for revenue replacement; doesn't want to grow government just to access those funds
- Reporter ? : Can Gov. explain the change in approach from putting out a 48 hour ultimatum to the tribes before threatening to file a lawsuit over the highway checkpoints to now trying to find a compromise?
  - Gov. said nothing has changed
  - Not a real sense of urgency; the checkpoints are a real issue to those who live in the area; sounds like there is not much consistency in how restrictions are being enforced from checkpoint to checkpoint