Callahan County, Texas, the United States, and indeed most of the world are affected by a global pandemic that has come to be known as COVID-19. This dangerous disease has infected hundreds of thousands of people and we do not know how many more will suffer.

Here at home we have received word of a confirmed case of COVID-19 in Callahan County as we become one of the latest in the growing number of counties throughout the nation that acquire that unenviable status. Others are under observation or have been tested. Numerous counties around us - Eastland, Brown, and Taylor - reported confirmed cases before Callahan County, but it was inevitable, given the nature of this disease, that we would have to report confirmation as well.

I do not have any specifics other than this individual is 50 to 64 years of age and that contraction of the disease was travel related.

I will be calling an emergency meeting of the Commissioners’ Court today at 1:00 PM for the purpose of briefing the commissioners and discussing issuance of a stay-at-home order specific to Callahan County. Further details will be forthcoming.

I urge you all to continue to practice the safety precautions recommended by the CDC and the Texas DSHS. Please keep this individual, the other victims of this disease, our first responders, our medical personnel, and our State and Nation in your prayers.