Motion: Move to continue the current face mask requirement, except in cases of documented medical exemptions, to be reviewed again at the March Library Board meeting.

Background: The number of active Covid-19 cases in Pennington County has dropped significantly in the past several weeks, from a high of 1,928 on December 7 to 281 as of February 4.

Because of CDC recommendations to continue wearing masks, the recommendation is to continue the library mask requirement, allowing for exceptions in the cases of documented medical exemptions.

In addition, some spaces and situations within the library should continue to require the wearing of masks, medical exemptions or not, due to either the need for direct staff assistance, lack of social distancing space, or both; these are the Business Office, direct one-on-one assistance from staff members, and the downstairs makerspace. Accommodations can be offered for these: Business Office functions (generally notary services) can be moved to the Conference Room, and assistance from staff can be provided by phone, chat, Zoom, or email. Locating or creating makerspace fabrications can be done from any computer, with the files provided on a flash drive. Under normal circumstances, patrons do not remain in the makerspace to make their fabrications, due to the time it takes to do so.