

March 8, 2021

Press Release

Office of the County Judge

Frank Malinak

Lee County Pandemic Response Coordinator

On Wednesday, at the Giddings Public Library, a twelve-member team from the Air National Guard gave injections at the first Lee County shot clinic. This came about as a result of a special request from County Judge Paul Fischer to Texas Emergency Management officials. Injections were for persons 75 or older or those with medical conditions placing them at high-risk from the virus. Our citizens came from all parts of the county. Some came alone and some were escorted by family or friends.

The City of Giddings provided the library facilities and technical support. The Lee County Ambulance Service provided medical personnel. County Judge Fischer, Sheriff Casey Goetz, Public Works Spencer Schneider and Texas Emergency Management District Coordinator Robbie Barrera were on scene. Kevin Rinn from Pieratt's Pharmacy and Candice Fierro from Brookshire Brothers were consulted for technical assistance.

Each Moderna vaccine vial contains ten doses but some vials contain one or two additional doses. Volunteers from the newly formed Lee County Call Center had constructed a list of 100 shot takers plus an additional twenty on standby in case we had extra vaccine. The number of doses is unknown until the syringes are filled. In this case the 100-shot clinic actually yielded 110 injections. The National Guard will return in a few weeks to give second round injections.

We have been in frequent contact with County Health Officer Dr. Laura Birnbaum as well as other physicians and medical personnel in Giddings and Lexington and area vaccination hubs. This fight against the coronavirus is truly a team effort with the singular goal of getting everyone vaccinated. For the week of March 8, 2021, the number of vaccine doses shipped to Lee County will double. Additional doses will arrive at area pharmacies and for the first time some doctor offices will receive vaccine. Vaccine that was earmarked for Davam Urgent Care but cancelled due to the recent winter storm, will arrive this week. Pieratt's Pharmacy and Brookshire Brother's Pharmacy continue to provide first and second round injections for those on their registration list. St. Marks Hospital in La Grange will begin receiving doses this week and will begin scheduling from their waitlist.

As a reminder, you may call 866-212-1502 or email covid19@co.lee.tx.us to reach the Lee County Call Center for information on local vaccine availability, updates on area vaccine hub operations or assistance in registering for a hub if you have no computer. And if you unable to travel, please advise the call center so we may arrange to assist you.