



Enrolled No. R163-057

RESOLUTION

File No. 19-20/119

RATIFYING THE DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY IN RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS

WHEREAS, in December 2019, a novel strain of coronavirus known as COVID-19 was detected, and COVID-19 has continued to spread throughout the world, including to the United States and the State of Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, the federal government, state governments, and local governments are working together to contain the further spread of the disease and treat existing cases; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services declared a Public Health Emergency, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic, and on March 12, 2020 the Governor of the State of Wisconsin declared a Health Emergency in the State; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020 Eau Claire County Board Chair, Nick Smiar declared a state of emergency for Eau Claire County with regards to the need to plan for and respond to the potential of an imminent health crisis related to Covid-19 virus; and

WHEREAS, Eau Claire County has been working to protect the health and well-being of its residents from the spread of COVID-19, and to prepare for the impacts the disease is likely to have on the County; and

WHEREAS, the Eau Claire County Board has determined that it is necessary to make all possible resources and means available to the County in order to protect the health, safety, and welfare of its residents from the threat posed by the continued spread of COVID-19.

WHEREAS, under Wisconsin Statute §252.03, the Eau Claire City-County Health Department is the lead agency for controlling and responding to communicable disease threats and has opened Incident Command to plan for and respond to meet the needs of our residents.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 323.11, and Chapter 2.36 of the Eau Claire County Code of General Ordinances, the Eau Claire County Board ratifies the declaration of emergency issued by Nick Smiar, County Board Chairman that finds and declares that a state of emergency exists within the County by reason of an imminent threat of disaster impairing medical care, health, and other critical systems of the County due to the spread of COVID-19; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that during the period of emergency prescribed by this Resolution, the Board may order, by ordinance or resolution, whatever is necessary and expedient for the health, safety, protection, and welfare of persons and property within the County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Board Chairman, Nick Smiar and County Administrator Kathryn Schauf are hereby authorized and directed by the Eau Claire County Board to coordinate and administer the County's emergency management response and to carry out the orders of the Board related thereto; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Head of Emergency Management of the County is authorized and directed to carry out his duties under the County's Emergency Management Plan