RESOLUTION NO. 28-20

RESOLUTION DECLARING STATE OF EMERGENCY – COVID-19

WHEREAS, the United States is experiencing an expanding COVID-19 pandemic and Wisconsin has had confirmed cases of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Washburn County desires to be as strategic and proactive as possible to ensure the health and safety of Washburn County staff, County Board Supervisors and other County elected officials, residents and those traveling throughout Washburn County; and

WHEREAS, Washburn County desires to maintain the highest level of services related to the general public, such as Public Health, Human Services including Unit on Aging, Law Enforcement, Emergency Management and all other departments directly related to the general welfare of all residents; and

WHEREAS, Washburn County desires flexibility to manage County operations throughout this pandemic; and

WHEREAS, providing administrative flexibility to allow the County Administrative Coordinator, in consultation with the County Board Chair, the ability to, and not limited to: Close Washburn County Government operations as necessary; implement strategic staffing changes to ensure enough healthy staff are in place to carry out necessary and critical services; and waive, add or alter Human Resources policies as necessary to assist with personnel management and any other operational contingencies that may occur as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic is necessary at this time to address the rapidly changing issues related to the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, providing flexibility to allow the County Board Chair to waive adherence to Washburn County ordinances, policies and by-laws related to meetings of the Washburn County Board and other Washburn County governmental bodies, and on a temporary, case-by-case basis, to implement and utilize established alternate methods that comply with the Wisconsin Open Meetings Law for conducting meetings of the Washburn County Board and other Washburn County governmental bodies is also necessary at this time to address the rapidly changing issues related to the pandemic;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washburn County Board of Supervisors authorizes the County Administrative Coordinator and County Board Chair to implement necessary plans and to take any steps necessary to ensure the health, safety, protection and welfare of the Washburn County staff, County Board Supervisors and other County elected officials, residents and those traveling throughout Washburn County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this emergency authority shall continue for sixty (60) days from the effective date of this Resolution unless sooner terminated or extended by further resolution of the Board.

FISCAL IMPACT: Unknown

Approved by the Washburn County Board of Supervisors on this 17th day of March, 2020.

Thomas J. Mackie, Chair

ATTEST:

Lolita Olson, County Clerk