

## DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the 2019 novel strain of coronavirus, known as COVID-19 is a respiratory virus that is extremely contagious and can be fatal;

WHEREAS, COVID-19 has spread throughout numerous countries including the United States and numerous cases have been identified in Wisconsin;

WHEREAS, the President of the United States has declared a national emergency and the Governor of Wisconsin has declared a public health emergency in the State of Wisconsin because of the spread of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the spread of COVID-19 in Marquette County presents an imminent threat of a disaster that threatens to, or has, negatively impacted life, health, property, security, or other critical systems including, but not limited to, the economy, emergency response, and medical care;

WHEREAS, a multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional response is necessary to undertake efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19;

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED, that pursuant to section 323.11 of the Wisconsin Statutes, in order to protect the public peace, health and safety, preserve lives and property, economic stability, and insure cooperation and coordination, a Declaration of Local State of Emergency is imposed for ninety (90) days, or until such earlier or later time as determined by the Marquette County Board of Supervisors, and, during this period, 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 PROCLAIMED, that the County Board Chair has the authority to order whatever is necessary and expedient for the health, safety, protection, and welfare of persons and property within Marquette County to the extent allowed by law, including, but not limited to, the authority to waive enforcement or compliance with Marquette County ordinances and policies, close non-essential Marquette County buildings and services, order meetings to be held remotely (by teleconference, video conference, or other means), restrict public observance of open meetings to video or telephone conference, and issue any other orders that the Chair deems appropriate, and

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED, that the full allocation of County resources be available to ensure the continuation of core County services in the midst of the pandemic; and

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED, that, in the event that the Spring Election scheduled for April 7, 2020 is delayed, such that the County Board supervisor election cannot be held prior to the expiration of the current supervisor terms, the current County Board supervisors shall continue to serve and fulfill such vacancies until such time as an election may be held (pursuant to section 59.10(1)(d) of the Wisconsin Statutes, which provides that the County Board may determine the procedure for filling a vacancy on the County Board) unless or until otherwise determined by law; and

BE IT FINALLY PROCLAIMED, that in anticipation of federal relief and reimbursement becoming available, all County departments and offices shall track expenses related to efforts to

protect the public and prevent the spread of COVID-19, and other public sector entities are encouraged to do the same.