OZAUKEE COUNTY STATE OF EMERGENCY DECLARATION – SUSPENDING MEETING RULES AND HOURS OF OPERATION IN RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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, Ozaukee 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 County Board Chairperson declared a State of Emergency in Ozaukee County on March 13, 2020 pursuant to sections §323.11 and §323.14(4)(b) of the Wisconsin Statutes making accessible 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.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to Wis. Stat. §323.11 and §323.14(4)(b) the Board finds and declares that an 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 following sections of the Ozaukee County Policy and Procedural Manual are hereby suspended during the period of emergency to allow for telephonic meetings and closure of the Administration Center and Justice Center to allow for limited public access during the pandemic:

2.05 COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

- (d) Meeting Rules:
 - 11. County Board Supervisors must be physically present to attend, participate and vote.

4.01. ADMINISTRATION OF ADMINISTRATION CENTER, JUSTICE CENTER, AND LASATA CAMPUS

(2) Office Hours:

(a) The office hours of the Administration Center and Justice Center shall be Monday through Friday inclusive from 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, based upon the information available to the Board and the ongoing threat posed by the spread of COVID-19, the period of emergency shall continue for sixty (60) days from the effective date of this Resolution unless sooner terminated or extended by further resolution of the Board.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all actions heretofore taken by the Board and other appropriate public officers and agents of the County with respect to the matters contemplated under this Resolution are hereby ratified, confirmed and approved.

Signed at the City of Port Washington this 24th day of March, 2020.

Jason G. Dzwinel County Administrator Lee Schlenvogt County Board Chairperson