

Resolution No. 12-20

RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE COUNTY'S RESPONSE TO THE  
ECONOMIC EMERGENCY THAT HAS RESULTED FROM GOVERNOR  
EVERS' SAFER-AT-HOME ORDERS

**TO THE HONORABLE CHAIRPERSON AND SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY  
BOARD OF THE COUNTY OF POLK:**

**Ladies and Gentlemen:**

1 WHEREAS, the Polk County Board recognizes the need for enhanced safety precautions to  
2 protect the public during this public health emergency; and  
3

4 WHEREAS, the Polk County Board cares deeply for the physical health of everyone who  
5 works, lives or recreates in Polk County; and  
6

7 WHEREAS the Polk County Board believes individuals and businesses have been, and will  
8 continue to, self-regulate by following physical distancing and increased attention to personal  
9 and area sanitation measures; and  
10

11 WHEREAS, Polk County has only had four COVID-19 positive tests and three of them have  
12 fully recovered and there are no hospitalizations regarding COVID-19 currently; and  
13

14 WHEREAS, Polk County is now experiencing a healthcare crisis because hospitals are laying  
15 off and furloughing employees; and  
16

17 WHEREAS, without immediate action, Polk County, its businesses and taxpayers will suffer  
18 catastrophic economic harm; and  
19

20 WHEREAS, it is the Polk County Board's belief that the County should begin supporting the  
21 opening of business in a safe manner and that any business in Polk County complying with  
22 the appropriate safety measures to protect employees and customers should not be subject to  
23 any action by Polk County or its staff relating to Governor Evers' Orders; and  
24

25 WHEREAS, the Governor's Orders have been ambiguous and difficult to interpret with  
26 any measure of consistency and this has led to absurd and haphazard enforcement  
27 measures taken by various communities and officials; and  
28

29 WHEREAS, rural Polk County is closer to the Twin Cities metropolitan area, that is  
30 loosening restrictions on businesses, than it is to the affected areas in Wisconsin, such as  
31 Milwaukee; and  
32

33 WHEREAS, local communities in this rural area in the best position to determine for  
34 themselves, with the input of experts, how to safely and methodically allow businesses to  
35 reopen while keeping safety as a priority; and  
36

37 WHEREAS, many local businesses are at a high risk of shutting down completely or  
38 suffering irreparable economic damage that will have a lasting and negative impact on the  
39 livelihoods of many Polk County residents; and

40  
41 WHEREAS, many of these same businesses were not able to obtain the much needed  
42 economic stimulus money through the various federal programs and will simply not survive  
43 until the current anticipated end to the closures on May 26, 2020.  
44  
45 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Polk County Board of Supervisors  
46 vehemently urges the Governor to allow regions within the State to determine for themselves  
47 the best and safest way to allow businesses to slowly reopen; and  
48  
49 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Polk County Board of Supervisors encourages local  
50 officials to exercise their discretion on enforcement of the Governor's Orders in a manner  
51 that is reasonable, especially when businesses are voluntarily following physical distancing  
52 and other recommended safety measures.  
53  
54 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Polk County Board of Supervisors directs the  
55 County to work with local health experts to educate businesses on best practices regarding  
56 physical distancing and other safety measures to keep our community safe.

BY:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Brad Olson, Supervisor, District #1

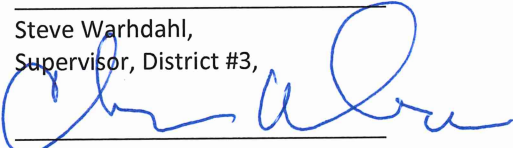
\_\_\_\_\_  
James Edgell, Supervisor, District #8

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Doug Route, Supervisor, District #2

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kim O'Connell, Supervisor, District #9

\_\_\_\_\_  
Steve Warhdahl,  
Supervisor, District #3,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Amy Middleton, Supervisor, District #10

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chris Nelson, Supervisor, District #4

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Jay Luke, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair,  
Supervisor, District #11

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy LaBlanc, Supervisor, District #5

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Fran Duncanson, Supervisor, District #12

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Brian Masters, Supervisor, District #6

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Russell Arcand, Supervisor, District #13

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Michael Prichard, Supervisor, District #7

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John Bonneprise, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair,  
Supervisor, District #14

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Joe Demulling, Supervisor, District #15

*County Administrator's Note:*

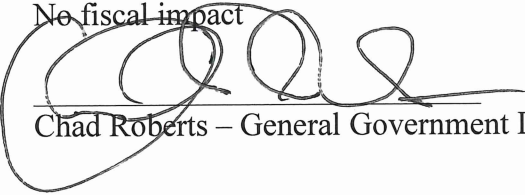
Matter of policy



Vince Netherland  
Polk County Administrator

*Fiscal Impact Note:*

No fiscal impact



Chad Roberts – General Government Division Director

Approved as to Form and Execution:



Malia Malone, Polk County Corporation Counsel

*Legal Impact Note:*

N/A.

Excerpt of Minutes

At its ~~regular business~~ <sup>special session</sup> meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 2020, the Polk County Board of Supervisors acted upon Resolution No. 12-20: Resolution Concerning The County's Response to the Economic Emergency That Has Resulted From Governor Ever's Safer-At-Home Orders

- ☒ Adopted by a majority of the members present by a vote of 9 in favor and 5 against.
- ☐ Adopted by unanimous voice vote.
- ☐ Adopted as amended. See Below.
- ☐ Defeated
- ☐ Other:

Insert amendment to resolution according to minutes:

SIGNED BY:

County Board Chairperson

ATTEST:

Lisa Ross, County Clerk

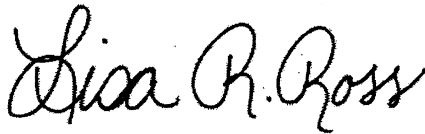
Executive Summary

This is a lobbying resolution that urges the Governor and local officials to act in a reasonable manner and to allow a regional response to business reopening safely.

**CERTIFIED COPY OF POLK COUNTY RESOLUTION**

STATE OF WISCONSIN    )  
                                      )  SS  
COUNTY OF POLK        )

I, Lisa R. Ross, County Clerk for Polk County, do hereby certify that the attached hereto and incorporated herein is a full, true and correct copy of Polk County Resolution No. 12-20: Resolution Concerning the County's Response to the Economic Emergency That Has Resulted From Governor Evers' Safer-At-Home Orders as adopted by the Polk County Board of Supervisors on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2020.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Lisa R. Ross, Polk County Clerk

5/1/2020

Date