

## PROCLAMATION DECLARING EMERGENCY IN THE COUNTY OF VERNON, WISCONSIN

**Whereas**, due to the existence of an immediate and significant emergency, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Vernon is unable to promptly convene a quorum of its members as set forth in Wis. Stat. § 323.14(4)(b); and,

**Whereas**, pursuant to sections 323.11 and 323.14(4)(b) of the Wisconsin Statutes, it is necessary and expedient for the health, safety, welfare and good order of the County to proclaim that emergency conditions exist; and,

**Whereas**, a novel coronavirus, COVID-19, causes infectious disease and was first detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China in December 2019, and symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough and shortness of breath and outcomes have ranged from mild to severe illness, and in some cases death; and,

**Whereas**, on January 31, 2020 the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Alex M. Azar II declared a public health emergency for the United States to aid the nation's health care community in responding to COVID-19; and,

**Whereas**, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has determined that the virus presents a serious public health threat; and,

**Whereas**, Wisconsin Department of Health Services has reported seven confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the State as of March 13, 2020; and,

**Whereas**, the Declaration does not reflect any dramatic change in the health of our community, and this step is being taken to help ensure adequate capacity to address the community transmission phase of COVID-19; and,

**Whereas**, it is expected that there will be increased demands on local public health as well as our community partners who are part of the response such as hospitals, clinics, emergency medical services, law enforcement and other agencies; and,

**Whereas**, it is important to declare a local emergency as such a declaration makes available resources to local government to meet with imminent needs and makes such resources available as expeditiously as possible;

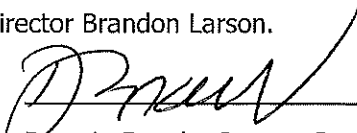
I, Dennis Brault, as the chairperson of the County of Vernon, Wisconsin, by this Proclamation,

**Now Therefore Hereby Declare** that an emergency exists within the County of Vernon, Wisconsin for reason of the worldwide outbreak of COVID-19 and the effects of its extreme risk of person-to-person transmission throughout the United States. The outbreak significantly affects the lives and health of our people, as well as the economy, and is a disaster that impacts the health, security and safety of the public. During the term of this Declaration there shall be no public gatherings of more than 250 persons. The term of this Declaration shall be limited to the time during which the emergency conditions exist or are likely to exist in the County of Vernon. The County Chairperson, or designated agents, have the authority to order by further proclamation whatever is necessary and expedient for the health, safety, welfare and good order of the County of Vernon during the emergency. The County Clerk shall post this proclamation pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 59.23.

The County Board of Supervisors shall convene an emergency meeting as soon as reasonably possible to ratify this Proclamation.

Recommended for consideration by Emergency Management Director Brandon Larson.

Dated: March 13, 2020.

  
Dennis Brault, County Board Chairperson  
Vernon County Board of Supervisors