

**RESOLUTION
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

County Board Chair
Kara Purviance
INITIATED BY



Josh Smith
DRAFTED BY

County Board Chair
Kara Purviance
SUBMITTED BY

May 13, 2020
DATE DRAFTED

**Supporting Creation of a Community Task Force on COVID-19
Response, Reopening, and Recovery**

1 **WHEREAS**, in order to combat the COVID-19 Pandemic, flatten the curve, and save lives, on March
2 24, 2020, Secretary-designee Andrea Palm of the Wisconsin Department of Health Services issued
3 Emergency Order #12, Safer at Home Order (“Safer at Home Order”) requiring that everyone in
4 Wisconsin stay at their home or place of residence except in limited circumstances until April 24,
5 2020; and

6
7 **WHEREAS**, on April 16, 2020, Secretary-designee Palm extended the Safer at Home Order, with
8 certain modifications, to May 26, 2020, pursuant to Emergency Order #28; and

9
10 **WHEREAS**, COVID-19 continues to present a substantial threat to the health, safety and wellbeing of
11 Rock County, which currently has the ninth highest growth rate of Covid-19 cases in the country, according
12 to data collected by the New York Times; and

13
14 **WHEREAS**, as of May 12, 2020, Rock County had 369 lab-confirmed positive cases, 3,553 negative tests,
15 and 13 confirmed deaths from COVID-19; and

16
17 **WHEREAS**, recently 5 of 6 gating criteria for loosening restrictions statewide as identified in the
18 Governor’s Badger Bounce Back Plan have been met; and

19
20 **WHEREAS**, the effect of COVID-19 on the local economy, including unemployment, are expected to be
21 at historic levels; and

22
23 **WHEREAS**, the need to provide basic services to affected members of the community will be significant;
24 and

25
26 **WHEREAS**, as statewide restrictions change, the Rock County community will need to collaboratively
27 plan for and coordinate a localized response addressing many areas.

28
29 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled
30 this 14th day of May, 2020 does hereby declare its support for the creation of a local task force of
31 community partners that could review localized metrics and develop plans related to response, reopening,
32 and recovery in Rock County; serve as a focal point for community information sharing and input; conduct
33 collaborative problem solving on identified gaps; and share resources as needed to address priority areas
34 of concern.

35
36 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, County staff are directed to work collaboratively with other local
37 governments, health providers, businesses, nonprofits, K-12 and post-secondary education, the faith
38 community, Public Health, Emergency Operations Center, congregate facilities, agriculture, tourism, and
39 other stakeholder groups on participating in such a task force.

Respectfully submitted,

COUNTY BOARD STAFF COMMITTEE

Kara Purviance, Chair

Richard Bostwick, Vice Chair

Tom Brien

Kevin Leavy

Louis Peer

J. Russell Podzilni

Alan Sweeney

Bob Yeomans

Jeremy Zajac

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Recommended.

/s/ Josh Smith

Josh Smith
County Administrator

FISCAL NOTE:

Per County Board Rule IV-C, County Board Supervisors appointed to additional special, single purpose or ad hoc committees to represent the County are eligible for per meeting allowances and mileage reimbursement. Other stakeholders are not eligible for per meeting allowances or mileage reimbursement. The cost of staff time is undetermined due to the number of variables present at this time.

/s/ Sherry Oja

Sherry Oja
Finance Director

LEGAL NOTE:

The County Board is authorized to take this action pursuant to secs. 59.01 and 59.51, Wis. Stats.

/s/ Richard Greenlee

Richard Greenlee
Corporation Counsel

Executive Summary

**Supporting Creation of a Community Task Force on COVID-19
Response, Reopening, and Recovery**

Recently, community leaders have been discussing the need to develop and coordinate efforts to continue the County's response to COVID-19, as well as plan for the reopening and recovery steps that will be occurring next.

While COVID-19 remains a significant threat in our County, statewide there is increased movement toward meeting the reopening criteria in the Governor's Badger Bounce Back Plan. In addition, there is uncertainty regarding whether any statewide orders will be extended or abolished.

Given these factors and the ongoing impact COVID-19 will continue to have on the community, a localized approach to planning is needed. Efforts are underway to create a task force of stakeholders from numerous areas of influence and need throughout Rock County to serve in this role.

Passing this resolution would show the County Board's support for these efforts, as well as direct County staff to provide resources in support as agreed upon by the task force participants.