

**RESOLUTION
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Supervisor Phil Owens
INITIATED BY



Supervisor Phil Owens
DRAFTED BY

County Board Staff Committee
SUBMITTED BY

December 12, 2019
DATE DRAFTED

Establishing an Advisory Committee to Study the Effects of an Electromagnetic Pulse on Rock County and its Infrastructure

1 **WHEREAS**, an Electromagnetic Pulse (“EMP”) is a burst of electromagnetic energy created by the rapid
2 acceleration of charged particles and can be caused by a number of different sources, including natural
3 sources such as a solar storm or solar flare, and manmade sources such as an atmospheric nuclear
4 detonation; and,
5

6 **WHEREAS**, an EMP releases highly charged electromagnetic particles that can induce currents of up to
7 thousands of amperes in long conducting lines of a few kilometers or greater, impairing components of the
8 electric grid and connected systems, and potentially permanently damaging or disrupting any exposed
9 electrical system; and,
10

11 **WHEREAS**, in a recent assessment of the risks associated with an EMP, the Electromagnetic Defense Task
12 Force of the United States Air Force noted that the occurrence on an EMP could have dire consequences
13 for society as a whole, including the blackout of the power grid, a shutdown of critical infrastructure
14 including emergency and non-emergency communications, transportation, food distribution and water
15 supply; and,
16

17 **WHEREAS**, an ad hoc advisory committee should be formed in order to study the effects of an EMP on
18 Rock County infrastructure in order to ensure that governmental actors in Rock County are aware and
19 taking appropriate precautions and making appropriate preparations for such an event.
20

21 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled
22 this 13th day of February, 2020 does establish the ad hoc Advisory Committee to Study the
23 Effects on an Electromagnetic Pulse on County Infrastructure in order to study and make policy
24 recommendations concerning the effects of an electromagnetic pulse on infrastructure in Rock County,
25 including, but not limited to, 911 and related emergency response and dispatch systems, IT systems, and
26 operational continuity including the estimated costs of such effects and policy recommendations.
27

28 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that such committee shall be composed of nine people, two of
29 whom shall be selected from the members of the Rock County Board of Supervisors and seven of
30 whom shall be selected from personnel and departments that may be most affected by such an event,
31 including, but not limited to, the Rock County 911 Center, the Rock County Sheriff’s Office and
32 other law enforcement agencies, Rock-IT, Municipal Fire and EMS agencies, risk management, and
33 local municipal administration.

20-2A-421

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Respectfully submitted,

COUNTY BOARD STAFF COMMITTEE

J. Russell Podzilni

Louis Peer

Mary Mawhinney, Vice Chair

Alan Sweeney

Richard Bostwick

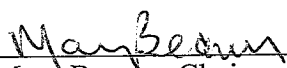
Terry Thomas

Henry Brill

Bob Yeomans

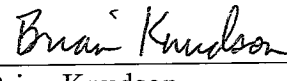
Betty Jo Bussie

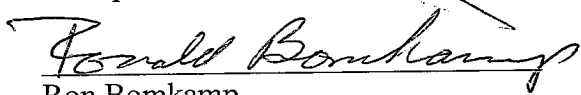
PUBLIC SAFETY AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE


Mary Beaver, Chair


Terry Fell


Phillip Owens, Vice Chair


Brian Knudson


Ron Bomkamp

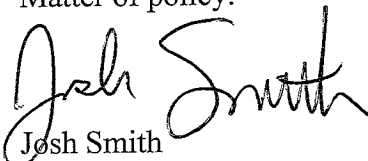
FISCAL NOTE:

Per County Board Rule IV-C, County Board Supervisors who are members of additional special, single purpose or ad hoc committees are eligible for per meeting allowances and mileage reimbursement.


Sherry Oja
Finance Director


ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Matter of policy.


Josh Smith
County Administrator

LEGAL NOTE:

The County Board is authorized to take this action pursuant to sections 59.01 and 59.51, Wis. Stats. as well as Rule IV-C of the County Board Rules.


Richard Greenlee
Corporation Counsel