

Res. 20-35

**PROCLAMATION OF A DISASTER IN FORD COUNTY RELATED TO
COVID-19**

WHEREAS, a significant outbreak of the novel strain of Coronavirus ("COVID-19") emerged in China and is now present in the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, the President of the United States of America, Donald Trump, did proclaim, on March 13, 2020, that COVID-19 is a national emergency and Governor of the State of Illinois, J.B. Pritzker, declared a statewide disaster on March 9, 2020; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a novel severe acute respiratory illness that can spread among people through respiratory transmissions, along with other methods; and

WHEREAS, statistically, certain populations are at a higher risk of experiencing more severe illness as a result of contracting COVID-19, including older adults and those suffering from serious chronic medical conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, hypertension, and/or lung disease; and

WHEREAS, Ford County is continuing its efforts to prepare for any eventuality given the effects an outbreak of COVID-19 has had in other communities throughout the State of Illinois and the United States; and

WHEREAS, the CDC currently recommends community preparedness and everyday prevention measures be taken by all individuals and families in the United States, including voluntary home isolation when individuals are sick with respiratory symptoms, covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue, washing hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, wearing a cloth face mask when outside of the home, and routinely cleaning frequently touched surfaces and objects to increase community resilience and readiness for responding to an outbreak; and

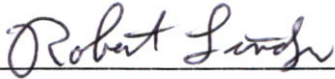
WHEREAS, it is the policy of Ford County to be prepared to address any disasters and therefore, it is necessary and appropriate to make additional resources within Ford County available to ensure that the effects of COVID-19 are mitigated and minimized and that residents and visitors in Ford County remain safe and secure; and

WHEREAS, this proclamation will activate the Ford County Emergency Operations Plan by proclaiming that a disaster exists within Ford County, this proclamation of disaster will assist the residents of Ford County by and through its Emergency Management Agency, the Ford County Public Health Department, and through the coordination of federal, state, county, and municipal resources and response activities, in an effort to prevent and reduce further damage and hazards, protect the health and safety of persons, protect property and provide emergency response;

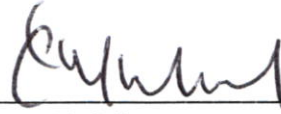
NOW THEREFORE WE, the Ford County Board, pursuant to the Illinois Emergency Management Act, 20 ILCS 3305/11, proclaims that a disaster does exist within Ford County, Illinois.

This proclamation is effective this 13th day of April 2020 and shall continue for the duration of the threat from the COVID-19 pandemic to Ford County, which will be determined by the Ford County Board with guidance from the Ford County Public Health Department.


Approved this 13th day of April 2020



Robert Lindgren
Ford County Board Chairman



Chase McCall
Ford County Board Vice-Chairman


Amy Frederick,
Ford County Clerk and Recorder