Action for Readiness: Polk County Issues Emergency Declaration re: Coronavirus (COVID-19)

## March 16, 2020

In consultation with county management, the Polk County Chairman of the Board of Supervisors issued an emergency declaration on Monday, March 16, 2020, in relation to the COVID-19 Pandemic affecting not only our region, but the nation. This declaration ensures government leaders, first responders and the Polk County Public Health Department have the necessary resources and assistance from state and federal authorities to provide an efficient and coordinated response to the citizens of Polk County. This action opens up resources and streamlines county processes so that decisive action can be taken should it become necessary.

At this time, there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Polk County. However, Wisconsin Department of Health Services is indicating there are signs of community spread in other parts of the state.

This declaration is timed so as to coincide with the stated priority of the Centers for Disease Control and the Wisconsin Department of Health Services to blunt the acceleration of new cases over the next 15 days.