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## MESSAGE ON COVID FROM POLK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

The Polk County Board of Supervisors is urging all residents and visitors to Polk County to make good decisions and implement simple, yet effective, actions to stop the spread of the Coronavirus. The recent increase in cases shows how easily the virus spreads and puts everyone at risk.

"If everyone does their part we can stop the alarming growth in cases," said County Board Chairman Chris Nelson. "It's up to us! We can help ourselves and others if we take personal responsibility to change certain behaviors over the next few months." Simple steps that make a difference include:

- Wearing face coverings in public places and around others
- Staying 6 feet from others and avoiding crowds/groups of people
- Practicing good hygiene habits (hand washing, frequent cleaning of common areas)
- Staying home if you feel sick
- If you think you have the virus or have been exposed to it, call your doctor

The number of cases has risen over the past several weeks. Polk County, which had been seeing lower numbers of cases compared to other counties in the state, has had huge jumps in numbers of late. Local data shows 578 new cases in the last week.

Not only does the virus create health risks for everyone, it also puts higher demand on health care systems like doctors, nurses and hospital beds. In addition, it puts our local businesses and economy at risk. For these reasons, community leaders are asking everyone to pull together to help Polk County stop the spread of Coronavirus.

For more information on how you can stop the spread of the virus, go to the Public Health website: <http://www.polkcountyhealthdept.org/>.

Respectfully,

*Vince Netherland*

