

# EMERGENCY MEETING OF THE PRICE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

DATE: April 2, 2020

TIME: 2:00 p.m.

PLACE: Courthouse County Board Room 101; 126 Cherry St; Phillips, WI 54555

There will be a meeting of the **Price County Board of Supervisors** at the time and place indicated. The meeting is open to the public pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes, Chapter 19, Subchapter V. (Open Meeting Law).

**PUBLIC ACCESS IS BEING LIMITED TO ALL COUNTY BUILDINGS.  
IF A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC WISHES TO ATTEND THIS MEETING, PLEASE CALL  
THE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE AT 715-339-3325 TO REQUEST ACCESS.**

**CONFERENCE CALL: 1-408-418-9388  
CONFERENCE CODE: 961 225 430**

Call to Order

Roll Call

Communications and Announcements

Public Comments

Resolutions:

1. Filling Vacancies on the Price County Board of Supervisors if the April 7, 2020 Spring Election is Postponed (Board Chair)
2. Adopt Emergency Resolution #ER2020-01: Designation of "Emergency Responder" and "Healthcare Provider" Employees (Board Chair – signed March 30<sup>th</sup>)

Convene to Committee of the Whole:

1. Update on COVID-19 Status
  - a. Public Health
  - b. Emergency Operations
  - c. Elections – April 7<sup>th</sup> and May 12<sup>th</sup>

Convene out of Committee of the Whole

Date of Next Meeting: April 21, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. in the County Board Room

Adjourn

By: Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chair

Posted: March 31, 2020; 12:05 p.m.

Reviewed by County Administrator:



Nicholas Trimner

C: The Price County Review

WCQM/WPFP

Corporation Counsel

Posting locations: Courthouse bulletin board, Normal Building bulletin board, Park Falls Public Library, Phillips Public Library, Ogema Public Library

The Board reserves the right to take appropriate action on any item timely noticed on this agenda. Persons having a disability may request special accommodations in keeping with ADA requirements. Requests will be kept confidential. Please contact the County Clerk's office at 339-3325

**Emergency Resolution #ER2020-01**  
**Designation of "Emergency Responder" and "Healthcare Provider" Employees**

WHEREAS, in December 2019, a novel strain of the coronavirus was detected, now named COVID-19, and it has spread throughout the world, including every state in the United States; and

WHEREAS, on January 3, 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 to be a Public Health Emergency of International Concern; and

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, Governor Tony Evers declared a public health emergency to direct all resources needed to respond to and contain COVID-19 in Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, President Donald Trump proclaimed a National Emergency concerning COVID- 19; and

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020, President Donald Trump signed the Families First Coronavirus Response Act ("FFCRA"), which expands the Family and Medical Leave Act (Emergency Family and Medical Leave Expansion Act), and creates a paid sick leave entitlement for certain eligible employees (Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act); and

WHEREAS, the provisions of the FFCRA allows employers to exempt "emergency responders" and "health care provider" from provisions of the FFCRA; and

WHEREAS, on March 24, 2020, the State of Wisconsin issued a Safer at Home Emergency Order, Emergency Order #12, in response to the emergency; and

WHEREAS, Paragraphs 1 and 12 recognize that all services provided by local governments to ensure the continuing operation of the government body and provide and support the health, safety, and welfare of the public are considered "Essential Governmental Functions" that must continue during the duration of Emergency Order #12; and

WHEREAS, Emergency Order #12 categorically exempts broad categories of local government employees from the restrictions contained therein and otherwise provides local governments with broad discretion to identify employees and contractors necessary for the performance of a local government's "Essential Governmental Functions;" and

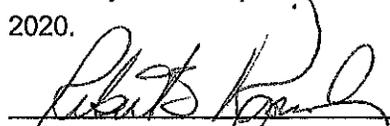
WHEREAS, the purpose of this Resolution is to provide the process for identifying employees, categories of employment, positions and/or departments that are "emergency responders" or "health care providers" under the FFCRA and, as a result, exempt from the provisions of the FFCRA.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Price County positions as defined in the Families First Coronavirus Act (FFCRA) Policy – Addendum to Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) Policy are hereby designated as "emergency responder" and "health care provider" for purposes of the application and implementation of the FFCRA; and

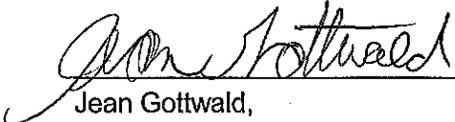
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that It is the intent of this Resolution to define the terms "emergency responder" and "health care provider" in the broadest sense possible consistent with the law in an effort to ensure and continue our essential functions during this time of emergency. Final determinations regarding the definition of emergency responder and/or health care provider as applied to any employment position with Price County shall be determined by the Price County Board of Supervisors with such decision being final; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution is effective immediately.

Issues by the Chairperson of the Price County Board of Supervisors this 30<sup>th</sup> day of March 2020.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chairperson

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jean Gottwald,  
Price County Clerk

Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April 2020.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jean Gottwald, County Clerk

For \_\_\_\_\_ Against \_\_\_\_\_

**Resolution \_\_\_\_\_**  
**Filling Vacancies on the Price County Board of Supervisors,**  
**if the April 7, 2020 Spring Election is Postponed**

WHEREAS, the 2020 Spring Election is scheduled to occur on April 7, 2020; and

WHEREAS, due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, related declarations of emergency and recent State orders limiting operations, including State of Wisconsin DHS Emergency Order #12 - "Safer at Home", there are concerns that the 2020 Spring Election may be postponed; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Sec. 59.10, Wis. Stats. a County Board Supervisor's term is two years with newly elected supervisor's terms starting on the third Tuesday in April following the election; and

WHEREAS, if the 2020 Spring Election is postponed, the County Board Supervisor offices will be vacant as of the third Tuesday in April (April 21, 2020) unless the vacancies are filled by Board action; and

WHEREAS, Price County has enacted Ordinance Code Chapter 191, Article I to operate under Sec. 59.10(1), Wis. Stats. as a self-organized county; and

WHEREAS, Sec. 59.10(1)(d), Wis. Stats. authorizes a self-organized County's Board of Supervisors to determine the procedure for filling of Board of Supervisor vacancies; and

WHEREAS, the action contemplated here is allowable, and falls within the duties and powers of a county during an emergency, under Sec. 323.14, Wis. Stats.

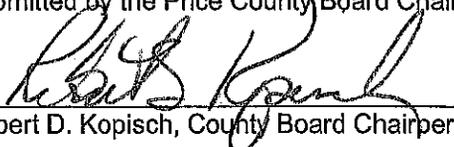
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Price County Board of Supervisors that if the Spring 2020 election is postponed beyond April 20, 2020, *then* each current incumbent seeking reelection to the County Board of Supervisors and receiving ballot status is hereby appointed to serve a temporary, interim term beginning April 21, 2020 and continuing only until the election is held and supervisors are elected for a full term and take office; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any County Board of Supervisor position that does not have a designated ballot status incumbent will remain vacant until the election is held; and

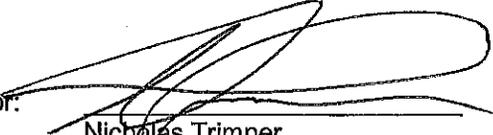
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if the Spring 2020 election is postponed beyond April 20, 2020, *then* the Sec. 59.11, Wis. Stats. Organizational Meeting is adjourned until a date and time to be determined by the County Clerk and County Board Chairperson pursuant to the law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the current chairperson, vice-chairperson as well as committee, commission and board assignments (whether appointed or elected) will continue until such time as reorganization is possible.

Submitted by the Price County Board Chairperson:

  
Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chairperson

Reviewed by County Administrator:

  
Nicholas Trimner

Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April 2020.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chairperson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jean Gottwald, County Clerk

For: \_\_\_\_\_ Against: \_\_\_\_\_