

# PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, one of the greatest responsibilities of any elected official is the protection of the electorate served and the protection of the greater public health and safety; and

**WHEREAS**, COVID19 poses a serious and potentially deadly threat to the public and the public health as the Federal Center for Disease Control (“CDC”) has noted that serious illness occurs in 16% of cases with older people and people of all ages with severe chronic medical conditions — like heart disease, lung disease and diabetes, for example — seeming to be at a higher risk of developing serious COVID-19 illness and noting that the World Health Organization has determined COVID19 to be a pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, across the globe, the disease has been dramatically spread through contact by those with no known correlation to any affected areas or without contact with those known to be infected, called “community spread” and the Iowa Department of Public Health (“IDPH”) has now identified community spread in the Des Moines Metro area and has issued new recommendations for individuals with underlying conditions, and all Iowans should be prepared for cancellations and disruptions in routine activities; and

**WHEREAS**, a high rate of infection has been shown to overwhelm medical systems throughout the world and numerous governmental entities and epidemiologists have stated that community spread in the United States poses the same risk of overwhelming American medical systems; and

**WHEREAS**, the IDPH has recommended the immediate implementation of several mitigation measures to have the most significant impact on slowing the spread of the virus, including avoiding large gatherings of more than 250 people, and considering adjustments for smaller gatherings with high risk groups;

**NOW, THEREFORE, IN CONSIDERATION OF THE FORGOING AND OTHER VALID EMERGENT CONCERNS, I, LANCE GRANZOW, CHAIRMAN OF HARDIN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PROCLAIM THE FOLLOWING:**

I hereby determine that a state of emergency or public danger exists.

I further strongly suggest—consistent with the recommendations of the IDPH—that private gatherings of 250 or more people on private property should be avoided and appropriate adjustment for smaller gatherings with high risk groups should be made.

I further direct all Hardin County Departments to cooperate and assist where possible Hardin County Emergency Management and Greenbelt Homecare for Hardin County Public Health as necessary to reduce affects from this disaster.

This Proclamation of emergency and public danger is part of an ongoing response of Hardin County to protect public health and safety and may be modified or superseded with more restrictive proclamations at any time as circumstances warrant.

PROCLAIMED THIS 16<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MARCH 2020 by the AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY THE CODE OF IOWA AND HARDIN COUNTY.

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Lance Granzow