

**Date:** March 31, 2020

**Subject:** DECLARATION OF STATE OF EMERGENCY IN VAN WERT COUNTY RELATED TO  
CORONA VIRUS DISEASE 2019 AKA COVID-19 EFFECTIVE MARCH 29, 2020

The Board of County Commissioners of Van Wert County, Ohio, met in regular session in the office of said Board on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2020, with the following members present: Mr. Todd D. Wolfrum, Mr. Stan D. Owens, and Mr. Thad Lichtensteiger.

Mr. Lichtensteiger moved the adoption of the following **RESOLUTION**:

**WHEREAS**, on March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020, Governor of the State of Ohio Mike DeWine declared a State of Emergency in Ohio, and on March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020, U.S. President Donald Trump declared a National Emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, Van Wert County, Ohio, now has a reported case of COVID-19 (Corona Virus Disease 2019), which easily transmits from person to person and can cause respiratory disease, serious illness, and death. All Van Wert County citizens are urged to heed the recommendations of your medical providers, Van Wert County Health Department, Van Wert County Emergency Management Agency (EMA), Ohio Department of Health (ODH), and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) regarding COVID-19 in order to protect your health and to keep you safe; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that this Board of Van Wert County Commissioners, at the request of Dr. Paul A. Kalogerou, Van Wert County Health Commissioner, and Rick W. McCoy, Van Wert County EMA Director, does hereby declare that a State of Emergency exists in Van Wert County effective March 29, 2020, and we hereby invoke and declare that, pursuant to section 5502.21 of the Ohio Revised Code, an emergency exists related to COVID-19 that requires actions to be taken to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of Van Wert County; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that this declaration of a State of Emergency shall activate the response and recovery aspects of any and all local and inter-jurisdictional disaster emergency plans which are applicable to Van Wert County, Ohio, and shall initiate the rendering of aid and assistance thereunder as needed. This declaration gives authorization to all leadership personnel of the County departments and agencies as are necessary, to assist in the County response to this COVID-19 event and utilizes all necessary resources and personnel to respond to this emergency pursuant to the Resolution endorsing the participation of County employees in assisting with responding and recovering during a declared Emergency and/or points of dispensing; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that this Board is requesting that the Van Wert County EMA activate the Van Wert County Emergency Operations Center for the duration of the Emergency in order to coordinate response efforts and authorizes the Emergency Management Director to request and make applications for any and all State and Federal assistance as necessary for this COVID-19 event.

Mr. Wolfrum seconded the motion. The roll was called upon its adoption, and the vote resulted as follows: Mr. Wolfrum, Yea; Mr. Owens, Yea; and Mr. Lichtensteiger, Yea.

BOARD OF VAN WERT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Attest:

Ryanne Bollenbacher  
Ryanne Bollenbacher, Clerk

Todd D. Wolfrum, Chairman of the Board

Stan D. Owens  
Stan D. Owens

Thad Lichtensteiger  
Thad Lichtensteiger

c: Rick McCoy, Van Wert County EMA Director  
File/Coronavirus (COVID-19)  
File/EMA

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