

RESOLUTION NO. 2020 – 11 – 125

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE
LINN COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH FACE COVERING REGULATION

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services declared a national public health emergency in response to the Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds issued a Proclamation of Disaster Emergency to coordinate the State of Iowa's response to the COVID-19 outbreak; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 outbreak a global pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, President Donald Trump issued a proclamation stating that the COVID-19 outbreak in the United States constitutes a national emergency, and on the same day issued a letter in which he stated that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic is of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant an emergency determination under section 501(b) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, Governor Reynolds issued a Proclamation of Public Health Disaster Emergency to provide additional needed resources and measures to respond to the COVID-19 disaster after the Iowa Department of Public Health identified community spread in the state; and

WHEREAS, on July 17, 2020, Governor Reynolds issued a Proclamation of Disaster Emergency in which she encouraged all Iowans to limit in-person interactions with vulnerable Iowans and to exercise particular care and caution when engaging in any necessary interactions; and

WHEREAS, Linn County Public Health, the Iowa Department of Public Health, the Iowa Board of Medicine, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), other public health experts, and Governor Reynolds strongly encourage the use of face coverings for protection in public settings, especially when social distancing measures are difficult to maintain; and,

WHEREAS, on November 10, 2020, Governor Reynolds issued a Proclamation of Disaster Emergency in which she prohibited certain indoor gatherings of 25 or more people or outdoor gatherings of 100 or more people unless all participants in the gathering who are two or older wear masks at all times while participating in the gathering, except while eating or drinking, and

WHEREAS, Iowa Code Section 135.140 establishes that a public health disaster is a disaster that specifically involves an imminent threat of an illness that poses a high probability of widespread exposure to an infectious agent that poses a risk of substantial future harm to a large number of the affected population; and

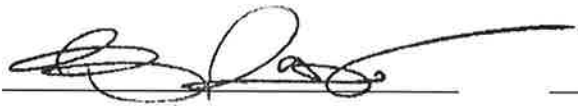
WHEREAS, COVID-19 continues to pose a substantial widespread risk of infection leading to a significant risk of harm to people in Linn County, particularly as daily rates of positive cases across Iowa continue to increase despite consistent testing and contact tracing; and

WHEREAS, a face covering regulation in Linn County is essential to reducing the risk of transmission of COVID-19; and is necessary to protect the health, welfare, and safety of residents and visitors, and to accelerate recovery efforts; and

WHEREAS, on November 16, 2020, the Linn County Board of Health approved a Face Covering Regulation and submitted it for approval to the Linn County Board of Supervisors pursuant to Iowa Code Section 137.104(1)(b)(2).

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that in response to the ongoing public health emergency the Linn County Board of Supervisors approves the Linn County Public Health Face Covering Regulation 2020, attached hereto and made part of this resolution.

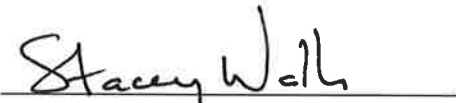
LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Ben Rogers, Chair



Brent Oleson, Vice Chair



Stacey Walker, Supervisor

AYE: 3 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0

ATTEST:



Joel Miller, Linn County Auditor

Deputy