RESOLUTION

Declaration of Local Public Health Pandemic resulting from imminent health conditions caused by the presence of Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19).

Supervisor Rollings offered the following resolution, No. 2022R-01 and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, COVID-19 has been declared a public health emergency by the federal government and it is still in existence (PREP Act declaration); and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) identified new variants of the COVID-19 virus which are present in the United States and medical experts determined that some of these variants are significantly more contagious than previously known variants; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 Omicron variant, which has been identified in Blue Earth County, has been determined by the CDC to be a "variant of concern" and appears to be easily transmitted from person to person; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 cases in Blue Earth County have trended upward, with the community transmission rate exceeding 300 cases per 100,000 individuals, putting Blue Earth County in the CDC's high-risk category; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the requirements of Minn. Stat. Section 13D.021, the SWCD Board Chair, has determined that an in-person meeting is not practical or prudent because of a health pandemic or an emergency declared under Chapter 12 of Minnesota Statues.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that some or all the Blue Earth County SWCD Board members and staff may participate and vote in regular or special meetings by telephone or other electronic means until April 7, 2022; and

BE IT FURTHER RESLOVED, that Blue Earth County SWCD Board hereby directs the District Manager to publish and post this resolution on the SWCD's website and official bulletin boards along with information for the public to attend meetings by telephone or other electronic means.

Supervisor Shanahan seconded the adoption of the resolution, and it was declared adopted upon the following vote on January 6, 2022:

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0