

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-87

RESOLUTION BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT UNDER SEC. 6-116(15) OF THE RACINE COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES TO ADMINISTER THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT EFFECTIVELY TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE EMERGENCY RELIEF IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

To the Honorable Members of the Racine County Board of Supervisors:

WHEREAS, a novel strain of the coronavirus (COVID-19), including the Delta and Omicron variants, remains a concern, not only for Racine County, but for the State of Wisconsin and the nation as a whole; and

WHEREAS, because little is known about Omicron currently, it is important for the public health and medical communities as well as the general public to remain vigilant to reduce potential exposure; and

WHEREAS, to maximize protection from the COVID-19 and prevent possibly spreading it to others, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) urges that fully vaccinated people should wear masks indoors when in areas of “substantial” or “high” COVID-19 transmission and unvaccinated people should wear masks regardless of community transmission level; and

WHEREAS, the number of coronavirus cases within Racine County has continued to swell and the level of community transmission continues to be designated as HIGH; and

WHEREAS, with increasing availability of vaccines and rates of vaccination, and effective safety and preventative measures within County buildings based upon the recommendations and guidelines of health authorities, supervisors are strongly encouraged to attend meetings in-person; however, it remains necessary to more effectively limit the spread of COVID-19 and emerging variants for the Racine County Board of Supervisors – including all standing committees – and all Racine County boards, committees, and commissions to have the option of participating in meetings remotely; and

WHEREAS, Sec. 6-116(15) of the Racine County Code of Ordinances authorizes the Racine County emergency management organization, under the direction of the Racine County Executive, to administer the county government effectively to meet the needs of the emergency relief.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Racine County Board of Supervisors that due to the continuing and recently increased threat and impact of COVID-19 and emerging variants, the Racine County emergency management organization is authorized under Sec. 6-116(15) of the Racine County Code of Ordinances to administer the county government effectively to meet the needs of the emergency relief, namely:

- 3
- 4 • All persons seeking entry to or occupying Racine County facilities are directed
- 5 to wear a face mask in public areas. Indoor public spaces include spaces where
- 6 visitors may come for services (e.g., atrium/lobby, elevator banks, stairwells,
- 7 restrooms, public corridors, and office counters);
- 8
- 9 • Fully vaccinated workers may work at their desks and cubicles without wearing
- 10 a face mask when distanced more than six feet from others. Unvaccinated
- 11 workers are directed to wear a face mask at all times in County buildings; the
- 12 only exception is when an unvaccinated worker is alone in an office. This is not
- 13 intended to alter or supersede the City of Racine mask ordinance as it relates
- 14 to locations within the City of Racine: [https://www.racinecoronavirus.org/mask-](https://www.racinecoronavirus.org/mask-ordinance/)
- 15 [ordinance/](https://www.racinecoronavirus.org/mask-ordinance/);
- 16
- 17 • All persons seeking entry to Racine County facilities should bring their own face
- 18 mask. Persons who do not bring their own face mask may obtain a disposable
- 19 mask at the public entrance while supplies last; supplies will be limited. Any
- 20 person who declines or refuses to wear a face mask and does not have
- 21 documentation showing that they are unable to do so for medical reasons may
- 22 be denied entry to the building. Such persons may contact by telephone the
- 23 agency or office they intend to visit to explore alternatives to entering the
- 24 facility;
- 25
- 26 • The Racine County Board of Supervisors – including all standing committees –
- 27 and all Racine County boards, committees, and commissions may conduct
- 28 meetings through the use of any means of communication by which all of the
- 29 following occur:
- 30
- 31 ○ The identity of each participating member may be verified, and the
 - 32 actions of each participating member may be authenticated, in a manner
 - 33 satisfactory to the presiding officer;
 - 34 ○ During the meeting, all participating members may simultaneously hear
 - 35 or read the comments of each member who is recognized by the
 - 36 presiding officer;
 - 37 ○ The public may contemporaneously monitor the proceedings of the
 - 38 governing body;
 - 39 ○ For purposes of determining the presence of a quorum in meetings, any
 - 40 participating member shall be considered present as if the member were
 - 41 physically present at the meeting;
 - 42 ○ A meeting shall be preceded by the same or substantially equivalent
 - 43 public notice as would be required if the governing body were physically
 - 44 present.
- 45

46 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Racine County Board of Supervisors that

47 this resolution shall remain in effect until 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 9, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

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4
5 1st Reading _____

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

6
7 2nd Reading _____

Thomas E. Roanhouse, Chairman

8
9 **BOARD ACTION**

10 Adopted _____

Tom Kramer, Vice Chairman

11 For _____

12 Against _____

13 Absent _____

Robert N. Miller, Secretary

14
15 **VOTE REQUIRED:** Majority

16
17 Prepared by:
18 Corporation Counsel

Robert D. Grove

Scott Maier

Rusty Russell Clark

Q.A. Shakoor, II

Melissa Kaprelian

Tom Hincz

Donald J. Trottier

36 **The foregoing legislation adopted by the County Board of Supervisors of**
37 **Racine County, Wisconsin, is hereby:**

38 **Approved:** _____

39 **Vetoed:** _____

40
41 **Date:** _____

42
43 _____
44 **Jonathan Delagrave, County Executive**