CREDIT RIVER TOWNSHIP SCOTT COUNTY STATE OF MINNESOTA

NOTICE THAT ALL TOWN BOARD MEETINGS SHALL BE CONDUCTED BY TELEPHONE OR OTHER ELECTRONIC MEANS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

WHEREAS, the virus named "SARS-CoV-2," is a new strain of coronavirus that has not previously been identified in humans and can easily spread from person to person and which causes a disease named "coronavirus disease 2019," commonly known as "COVID-19," which is a respiratory disease that can result in serious injury or death; and

WHEREAS, on January 21, 2020 the first case of COVID-19 was detected in the United States; on March 6, 2020 the first case of COVID-19 was detected in the State of Minnesota; and as of March 16, 2020, there are thirty-five known cases of COVID-19 in Minnesota, including cases in Dakota County; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar declared a public health emergency for COVID-19, beginning on January 27, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, President Donald Trump declared that the COVID-19 outbreak in the United States constitutes a National Emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Governor Tim Walz declared a Peacetime State of Emergency to authorize and all necessary resources to be used in support of the COVID-19 response; and

WHEREAS, as of March 15, 2020 the World Health Organization Situation Report confirmed a total of 153,517 cases of COVID-19 in over 135 countries, including 5,735 deaths; and as of March 15, 2020, a total of 35 cases of COVID-19 have been reported in Minnesota including two in Dakota County; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 has been identified by the World Health Organization as a pandemic, and the United States Centers for Disease Control has provided guidance for individuals, healthcare professionals, and businesses to slow the spread of COVID-19, which include cancelling or postponing in-person events that involve more than fifty people for eight weeks; and

WHEREAS, additional local cases will trigger a more aggressive public health response and are predicted to impact residents of Credit River Township and those who work in or travel through the Township, including Township employees; and the need for social distancing, school closings, and quarantine methods to stop the spread of COVID-19 is expected to cause significant challenges; and

WHEREAS, the Chairman of the Credit River Township Board of Supervisors in consultation with the Town Attorney finds that this situation threatens the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the community and will cause a significant impact on the ability of public safety personnel to address any immediate dangers to the public as a result of COVID-19.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CHAIRMAN OF CREDIT RIVER TOWNSHIP PROCLAIMS, DECLARES, REQUESTS, AND DIRECTS AS FOLLOWS:

- 1. Declares, under Minnesota Statues, Section 13D.021, that in-person meetings of the Credit River Town Board and other advisory commissions of Credit River Township are not practical or prudent due to the COVID-19 health pandemic and the peacetime emergency declared by Governor Walz pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 12, and hereby directs that meetings of the Town Board and other advisory commissions of the Township shall be conducted by telephone or other electronic means and hereby directs Township staff and consultants to take such action as may be necessary to enable such meetings to occur via telephone or other electronic means pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 13D.021, until such time as it is no longer impractical or imprudent for the Town Board and other advisory commission to resume in-person meetings; and
- 2. Declares that it is not feasible due to the health pandemic for at least one member of the Town Board or the Town Attorney be physically present at the regular meeting location; and
- 3. Orders that this declaration be given prompt and general publicity on the Township's website and posting places and that it be filed promptly by the Town Clerk.

Dated this 20th day of March, 2020

Chris Kostik, Chairman