TOWN OF POLK, WASHINGTON COUNTY
RESOLUTION NO. 08.2026

A Resolution of the Town of Polk, Requesting Participation in and County Assistance Through the Washington County Shared Services Grant Program for Countywide Fire/Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

WHEREAS, the Town board of the Town of Polk recognizes the critical importance of local Fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) readiness, response, governance, and accountability to protect public health and safety within the community; and

WHEREAS, Washington County has established and intends to administer a shared-services grant program to support municipal Fire/EMS operations and Fire/EMS-related administrative and oversight activities through defined performance expectations and reporting, with funding subject to annual appropriation by the Washington County Board of Supervisors; and

WHEREAS, the County has identified multiple funding sources for this program—an authorized County levy under Wis. Stat. § 66.0602(3)(e)6., and the already implemented County sales tax—and intends to combine these revenue sources so that the program is net neutral in tax rate impact to the County's overall tax rate, recognizing that all program funding remains contingent on annual County Board appropriation; and

WHEREAS, the grant program is not intended to create, operate, or constitute a countywide EMS system under Wis. Stat. ch. 256, and participating municipal Fire/EMS agencies shall remain locally operated, and managed, with no shift of municipal Fire/EMS operations to County control; and

WHEREAS, Wis. Stat. § 59.03(2)(b) authorizes Washington County to establish programs and assume functions by resolution, and Wis. Stat. § 59.03(2)(a) provides a municipal mechanism to request County exercise or joint exercise of functions upon terms specified by municipal resolution, provided the resolution is passed by a majority of the members-elect, specifies the terms upon which the powers shall be exercised, states whether the authority is to be exercised exclusively by the County or jointly, and finds that County exercise is in the public interest; and

WHEREAS, the Town Baord finds that requesting County assistance through the shared-services grant program for Fire/EMS support, including specified grant program administrative and oversight functions tied to performance expectations and reporting, is in the public interest; and

WHEREAS, the County may respond by resolution to exercise the requested function(s) and enter into a grant agreement and/or an intergovernmental cooperation agreement with this Body consistent with Wis. Stat. § 66.0301.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the town board of the Town of Polk, Washington County, Wisconsin, that pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 59.03(2)(a), the Town of Polk formally requests that Washington County exercise specified administrative and oversight functions related specifically to the Washington County Shared Services Grant Program for Countywide Fire/EMS, limited to the following categories in support

of municipal Fire/EMS operations: Program performance measurement, benchmarking, and related reporting coordination tied to readiness, response, governance, and accountability expectations, grant administration, including application intake, eligibility review, compliance monitoring, and disbursement consistent with annual County appropriation, and technical assistance related to shared-services planning, intergovernmental coordination, and best-practices support for Fire/EMS administrative and oversight activities.

Be it Further Resolved that the Town Board finds that County exercise of the above-listed administrative and oversight functions, in connection with grant support to the Town, is in the public interest because it supports sustainable local Fire/EMS readiness and response while enhancing governance and accountability through defined performance expectations and reporting.

Be it Further resolved that the authority requested above is to be exercised exclusively by Washington County as part of the County's administration of the shared-services grant program.

Be it Further Resolved that the Town Board authorizes the Town Board Chair to negotiate, approve as to form, and execute on behalf of the Town a grant agreement with Washington County for participation in the Washington County Shared Services Grant Program for Countywide Fire/EMS.

ADOPTED this _____ day of _____ 2026.

_____
Albert Schulties, Town Chair

Attest: _____
Alison Pecha, Town Clerk