



Health & Human Services Agency

COUNTY OF TULARE AGENDA ITEM

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

LARRY MICARI
District One

PETE VANDER POEL
District Two

AMY SHUKLIAN
District Three

EDDIE VALERO
District Four

DENNIS TOWNSEND
District Five

AGENDA DATE: March 7, 2023

Public Hearing Required	N/A
Scheduled Public Hearing w/Clerk	N/A
Published Notice Required	N/A
Advertised Published Notice	N/A
Meet & Confer Required	N/A
Budget Transfer (Aud 308) attached	N/A
Personnel Resolution attached	N/A
Agreement(s) attached	N/A

CONTACT PERSON: Andrew Lockman PHONE: 559-624-8000

SUBJECT: Ratify a Proclamation of Local Emergency due to Winter Storms and Flooding

REQUEST(S):
That the Board of Supervisors:

Ratify a Proclamation of Local Emergency due to Winter Storms and Flooding proclaimed by the Emergency Services Director on March 1, 2023.

SUMMARY:

On February 24, 2023, a new series of winter storms began impacting Tulare County, bringing excessive rain/snowfall across the entire County. As a result, Highway 99 was closed in Pixley due to flooding, while flood fighting operations were necessary in the Seville and Yettem areas, with known impacts to Stone Corral School and potential minor damages to a small number of private residences. The County's Emergency Operations Center was activated from February 25 to February 28 in support of this response and potential sheltering needs.

Separately, extraordinary snow accumulations and blizzard conditions have continued to affect the mountains, resulting in landslides and road closures that cannot be cleared promptly and may result in the isolation of remote communities. Meanwhile, the foothill communities experienced low-elevation snow accumulation, while the valley experienced thunderstorms, flooding, and damaging winds through the time of this writing on March 1, 2023, with sub-freezing temperatures and one or more additional storms in the forecast.

SUBJECT: Ratify a Proclamation of Local Emergency due to Winter Storms and Flooding

DATE: March 7, 2023

As these storms have created conditions of peril to life and property, the Emergency Services Director proclaimed a Local Emergency on March 1, 2023. The impacts of these storms are exacerbated by already saturated conditions resulting from the storms beginning in December 2022, for which a separate Local Emergency was proclaimed and ultimately a Federal Major Disaster Declaration was received. However, given the elapsed time between the end of the Major Disaster incident period and these storms, a new Proclamation of Local Emergency is required in order to implement authorities and seek appropriate disaster assistance from State and/or Federal agencies.

A Proclamation of Local Emergency issued by the Emergency Services Director must be ratified by the Board of Supervisors within seven days in accordance with California Government Code §8630 to remain in effect. Staff, therefore, recommends ratification of this action and will bring forth a termination of the Local Emergency at an appropriate future date.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

There is no cost associated with proclaiming or ratifying a Local Emergency. This action may ultimately reduce local costs if successful in activating disaster recovery grant programs.

LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:

The County's five-year strategic plan includes the Safety and Security initiative, with a directive to plan and provide coordinated emergency preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation capabilities for both natural and man-made disasters. This proclamation supports a Countywide emergency response and coordination efforts by ensuring all necessary actions can be taken to mitigate the hazards associated with these storms and resulting flooding.

ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:

/s/ Anita Ortiz
Anita Ortiz
Associate Agency Director

Cc: County Administrative Office

Attachments: Proclamation of Local Emergency