

RESOLUTION 65-2023

DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, unincorporated Washington County, Colorado has sustained considerable damages and economic impacts due to continued rains and local flooding to the county roads and associated infrastructure.

WHEREAS, beginning in May 2023 and continuing until the current date the constant rains and runoff have impacted numerous county roads causing Washington County to expend resources and monies on emergency and continuous repairs and maintenance.

WHEREAS, the ongoing expenditures are causing Washington County to exceed normal budgetary amounts and impacting other areas of the budget.

WHEREAS, the Washington County Office of Emergency Management has advised the Board of County Commissioners of Washington (Board) of a disaster (as the term is defined in the Colorado Disaster Emergency Act, § 24-33.5-701 *et seq.*, C.R.S.) currently present in the unincorporated area of Washington County, Colorado, to wit, the occurrence of imminent threat of widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property resulting from the local flooding and runoff requiring emergency action to avert danger or damage; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate and in the interests of the public health and safety to rapidly address the condition of the county roads and subsequent cascading impacts such as economic distress, and would further protect the health and safety of the public, to declare an emergency in unincorporated Washington County; and

WHEREAS, the cost and magnitude of responding to and recovery from the impact of the localized flooding and runoff is in excess of Washington County's available resources; and

WHEREAS, declaration of a local disaster emergency will assist and permit access to local emergency funds, Federal and State assistance, adjustments to policies, procedures, and ordinances to ensure the public's health and welfare; and

WHEREAS, an Emergency Declaration allows Washington County to be able to take proactive measures and activate our Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) to better respond to the impacts of the flooding event and associated runoff; and

WHEREAS, the County has remotely activated its Emergency Operations Center, and the Board of County Commissioners now seeks to declare a local disaster, in addition to other steps outlined below, to address the flooding and runoff; and

WHEREAS, the Washington County Emergency Manager and Washington County Commissioners have recommended that a local disaster be declared; and

WHEREAS, the Chair of the Board, as principal executive officer of Washington County, is authorized to unilaterally declare a local disaster pursuant to § 24-33.5-709, C.R.S., and to activate the emergency management and operations plans and resolutions of Washington County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. There is hereby declared to be a local disaster emergency in the unincorporated area of Washington County, Colorado, to wit, the occurrence of imminent threat of widespread or severe damage, injury or loss of life or property, resulting from flood waters requiring emergency action to avert danger or damage.
2. The effect of this Declaration shall be to activate the response and recovery aspects of any and all applicable local and inter-jurisdictional disaster emergency plans and to authorize the furnishing of aid and assistance under such plans.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the principal executive officers of all cities and towns in Washington County affected by said disaster are urged to proclaim similar declarations and to cooperate with Washington County as necessary to address the emergency conditions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Declaration shall be effective upon the date and time given below, and shall remain in effect for a period of seven days unless rescinded or extended by the Washington County Board of County Commissioners prior to expiration.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that true copies shall be promptly filed with the Washington County Clerk and Recorder and the Colorado Division of Emergency Management, and shall be promptly distributed to the appropriate representatives of the news media.

ADOPTED on Wednesday, the
21st day of June, 2023.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
WASHINGTON COUNTY, COLORADO**



Lea Ann Laybourn, Chairman



Kent Vance, Commissioner



Gisele Jefferson, Commissioner

I, Annie Kuntz, County Clerk and Recorder in and for the County of Washington, State of Colorado, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Washington and State of Colorado, in special session on this 22nd day of June, 2023.



County Clerk and Recorder

