



# MARIPOSA COUNTY

Sheriff's Office · 209 966-3615



## **RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2021-66**

MEETING: February 9, 2021

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Jeremy Briese, Sheriff

RE: Adopt Resolution Ratifying Proclamation of the Existence of a Local  
Emergency Due to Winter Storms

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### **RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:**

Adopt a Resolution Ratifying the February 3, 2021, Proclamation by the Director of Emergency Services of the County of Mariposa, State of California, Proclaiming the Existence of a Local Emergency caused by a Meteorological "Atmospheric River" and Requesting State And/Or Federal Funds to Assist with Recovery Efforts.

On January 22nd, 2021, a powerful storm system arrived to our area, bringing with it a meteorological "atmospheric river" of rainfall and snow at higher elevations. This same storm system lingered over the area until January 29th, 2021. The measured snow depth was over 10 feet in certain areas of the county, with 6-8 inches of rain registered at lower elevations. Significant damages have been recorded to public infrastructure, including roads and facilities. Additionally, significant expenses have been incurred due to major snow removal operations. Damaged infrastructure continues to be discovered and will likely occur for many more days and weeks to follow.

On February 3, 2021, Sheriff Jeremy Briese, acting as the Director of Emergency Services, pursuant to Mariposa County Code Section 2.80.040, issued the attached Proclamation declaring a local emergency.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 8630, whenever a local emergency is proclaimed by an official designated by ordinance, the local emergency shall not remain in effect for a period in excess of seven days unless it has been ratified by the governing Board.

### **BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:**

The Board has ratified similar proclamations in the past during other emergencies.

### **ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:**

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If the Board does not ratify the proclamation, the County will not be eligible for possible State or Federal disaster assistance.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

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**ATTACHMENTS:**

**2021.01 Winter Storms - Atmospheric River (PDF)**

**Emergency Resolution\_2021- (PDF)**

**RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**

**MOVER:** Miles Menetrey, District V Supervisor

**SECONDER:** Wayne Forsythe, District IV Supervisor

**AYES:** Smallcombe, Sweeney, Long, Forsythe, Menetrey

**RESOLUTION NO. 21-66**

**RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE FEBRUARY 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021, PROCLAMATION BY THE DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES OF THE COUNTY OF MARIPOSA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, PROCLAIMING THE EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY DUE TO A METEOROLOGICAL ATMOSPHERIC RIVER EVENT AND REQUESTING STATE AND/OR FEDERAL FUNDS TO ASSIST WITH RECOVERY EFFORTS**

**WHEREAS**, California Government Code Section 8630 empowers the Board of Supervisors of any County to proclaim a local emergency when the County is affected or could be affected by a natural or manmade disaster; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 22, 2021 through January 29, 2021, a powerful winter storm, accompanied by a meteorological “atmospheric river” struck Mariposa County causing extreme snow pack and precipitation, which, in turn, caused extensive infrastructure and other damages; and

**WHEREAS**, the Director of Emergency Services of Mariposa County, proclaimed the existence of a local emergency on February 3, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors does hereby find that conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property have arisen within Mariposa County caused by this major event.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that a local emergency now exists throughout Mariposa County and the prior Proclamation of Emergency issued by the Director of Emergency Services is hereby ratified; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that during the existence of the local emergency the powers, functions, and duties of the Director of Emergency Services and the emergency services organization of the County shall be those prescribed by state law, by ordinances, and by resolutions of Mariposa County approved by the Board of Supervisors; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Supervisors of Mariposa County requests the use of California Disaster Assistance Act (CDAA) funding, Stafford Act funding, other funding sources and other resources should they be made available for local jurisdictional preparation and response to the January 2021 Winter Storms Event; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Governor of the State of California and the State Director of the Office of Emergency Services; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Director of Emergency Services, or his designee, is hereby designated as the local Hazard Mitigation Coordinator of the County of Mariposa for the purpose of assessing damage within Mariposa County and consulting with federal/state survey teams about hazard mitigation actions; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Director of Emergency Services, or his designee,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Director of Emergency Services, or his designee, is hereby designated as the authorized representative for public assistance, and the Director of Emergency Services, or his designee, is hereby designated as the authorized representative for individual assistance to the County of Mariposa for purpose of receipt, processing, and coordination of all inquiries and requirements necessary to obtain available state and federal assistance.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mariposa, a political subdivision of the State of California, this 9th day of February, 2021 by the following vote:

AYES: SMALLCOMBE, SWEENEY, LONG, FORSYTHE, MENETREY  
NOES: NONE  
ABSENT: NONE  
ABSTAINED: NONE

  
**MARSHALL LONG**, Chair  
Mariposa County Board of Supervisors

**ATTEST:**

  
**RENE LaROCHE**  
Clerk of the Board

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

  
**STEVEN W. DAHLEM**  
County Counsel

**PROCLAMATION BY THE DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES FOR THE COUNTY OF  
MARIPOSA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, PROCLAIMING THE EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL  
EMERGENCY AND REQUESTING STATE AND/OR FEDERAL RESOURCES TO ASSIST  
WITH RECOVERY EFFORTS**

**WHEREAS**, Section 8630 of the Government Code and Chapter 2.80 of the Mariposa County Code empower the Director of Emergency Services to proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency when said County is affected or likely to be affected by a public calamity and the County Board of Supervisors is not in session; and

**WHEREAS**, Mariposa County has already been adversely impacted by the effects of five other local emergencies such as, the Creek Fire, COVID-19, Tree Mortality, Drought, and the Mono Wind Event, that have strained and depleted County resources; and

**WHEREAS**, the Director of Emergency Services does hereby find that conditions of an existing or threatened existence to the safety of persons and property have arisen within Mariposa County, caused by an atmospheric river causing consecutive and extreme winter storms; and

**WHEREAS**, these extreme storms are causing ongoing damage to the County and other public and district facilities, including but not limited to roads, bridges, and structure(s) within Mariposa County, the extent of which has not been completely compiled; and

**WHEREAS**, damaged infrastructure continues to be discovered and will likely occur for many more days, including debris removal, snow removal, and continued damage assessment and repair; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Mariposa has already deployed available resources; and

**WHEREAS**, the County is seeking financial assistance from the California Office of Emergency Services Director or the Office of the Governor of the State of California under the California Disaster Assistance Act (CDA) program.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED** that a local emergency now exists throughout the County of Mariposa; and

**IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED** that during the existence of said local emergency the powers, functions, and duties of the emergency organization of this County shall be those prescribed by state law, and by ordinances and resolutions of this County; and that this emergency proclamation shall expire 7 days after issuance unless confirmed and ratified by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mariposa.

Dated: 2-3-2021

By:   
**JEREMY BRIESE**  
Director of Emergency Services

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

  
**RENE LAROUCHE**  
Clerk of the Board

  
**STEVEN W. DAHLEM**  
County Counsel