
SPECIAL EMERGENCY MEETING MINUTES

12:00p.m. Virtual Meeting - Zoom

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Euwer called the meeting to order. Present: Commissioner Babitz, Commissioner Perkins, Commissioner Weather, County Administrator Allison Williams and County Counsel Lisa Davies.

ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS

CONFLICT OR POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

NEW BUSINESS

A. Local Emergency Declaration

RECOMMENDATION: Approve and sign the Resolution declaring a local state of emergency for Hood River County and the City of Cascade Locks.

Allison reported due to the winter storm happening now and ice storm that is predicted is the reason for this special emergency meeting of the Board of Commissioners to consider a Resolution to declare a local emergency.

Sheriff English and Emergency Manager Charles Young spoke about issues due to storm and equipment (911 generator) failure, broken pipes at the County Courthouse, storm related power outages and damages in Cascade Locks. Sheriff English stated for these reasons they are requesting the emergency declaration resolution to be approved.

{Commissioner Weathers joined the meeting at 12:05pm}

Emergency Manager spoke about the incoming weather this afternoon. It is predicted that I84 will be closed today sometime as well as SR14 resulting in difficulties to get emergency supplied to Cascade Locks. Due to snow and ice they are expecting power outages and road closures in the upper valley.

Allison Williams, County Administrator shared a meeting with the department heads that took place today. There is concern about a shortage of staff so we will be looking internally to back up emergency management as needed. The staff is concerned about down trees and road accessibility, there will be cost associated with the additional work that is anticipated and it will be good to have the flexibility the emergency declaration provides for procurement reasons.

Discussion about the warming shelter in Cascade Locks and the failure of the generator and back up generator and how that was managed.

Commissioner Babitz made a motion to approve the emergency declaration resolution. Commissioner Perkins seconded the motion.

Vote on the motion was as follows:

Commissioner Babitz – yes
Commissioner Perkins – yea
Commissioner Weathers – yes
Chair Euwer – yes

Motion carried.

Commissioner Babitz suggested that we revisit our emergency procedures that would allow the County Administrator to act on this type of Resolution in a short period of time until a Commission meeting can be held. Suggests the Emergency Manager be allowed to work on a recommendation to be brought forward.

Counsel Davies stated she believes in the emergency plan there is an order of succession that is laid out and she can follow up with the Emergency Manager on that later.

Allison reported due to the weather and the large number of employees that live outside of the County she will look at a late start for tomorrow.

ADJOURNMENT - Chair Euwer adjourned the meeting at 12:16pm.

