

**BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA**

12:00p.m. Virtual Meeting - Zoom

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS**
3. **CONFLICT OR POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**
4. **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.
5. **ADJOURNMENT**

**AGENDA REQUEST FORM**

**DATE:** January 16, 2024    **DEPARTMENT:** Administration    **NAME:** Heidi DeHart

**SUBJECT:** Local Emergency Declaration

**AUTHORITY:**    *ORS:*    *OAR:*

*COUNTY ORD:*

**BACKGROUND:**

The winter storm that hit the Gorge January 12, 2024, has caused damages in the County and City of Cascade Locks resulting in unexpected expenditures (broken water pipes at the courthouse, and generator issues at 911).

With the impending freeze and then rapid warm up, there is also the expectation of flooding in Cascade Locks and elsewhere.

Declaring a local state of emergency is recommended to be adopted through a Resolution, which will allow for the flexibility to address current local issues as a result of this past weekend's storm and the impending freeze this week.

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**ATTACHMENTS:**    [24 01 16 Declaration of Emergency.pdf](#)

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT BY AFFECTED PARTIES:**

*COUNTY COUNSEL*     *FINANCE*     *OTHER AGENCIES*     *ADMIN*

*HR DEPT*     *APPROPRIATE COUNTY COMMITTEE*     *OTHER*

**ADMINISTRATION SUGGESTED ACTION:**

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

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**FOLLOW UP:**

COPIES TO:

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
HOOD RIVER COUNTY, OREGON**

IN THE MATTER OF DECLARING )  
A LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY ) RESOLUTION NO. 2564  
IN HOOD RIVER COUNTY AND THE )  
CITY OF CASCADE LOCKS )

**WHEREAS**, commencing on Friday, January 12, 2024, at 12 P.M. PST, a significant weather event impacted the area of Hood River County, causing a series of evacuations, the need for sheltering of unsheltered persons, the provision of emergency power, and snow and debris removal throughout Hood River County; and

**WHEREAS**, this weather emergency is threatening lives, homes, schools, community services and businesses and continues to escalate, causing the Hood River County EOC to partially activate at 4AM on January 14, 2024, and all emergency response agencies to take emergency actions and remain in continuous activation; and causing damages and interruption to the City and Port of Cascade Locks where approximately 1200 residents and associated businesses were without power; and

**WHEREAS**, the severity and magnitude of the emergency is at the limit for the timely and effective response capability of Hood River County and its cities and is exhausting our local resources after three days of activation and response, and after mutual aid has been exhausted, significant additional services may be needed to help; and

**WHEREAS**, due to the complexity of the predicted incoming weather including an ice storm warning for Hood River County from 1 PM January 16 TO 10 AM PST January 17, 2024, Hood River County has determined there may be a need for extraordinary regional, state and federal assistance to respond to the emergency conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, the county emergency service responders including five Hood River County fire agencies, Hood River County Sheriff's Office, City of Cascade Locks, Hood River Police, OSP, ODOT, Red Cross, public works, health officials and many other agencies responding are already at capacity.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:**

1. Pursuant to ORS 401.309, Title 13, Chapter 13.08 and the Hood River County EOP, the Board of Commissioners for Hood River County formally declares a state of emergency for Hood River County, effective this 16th day of January 2024, and continuing through January 31, 2024, unless extended or terminated by the Board of Commissioners.

2. Upon this declaration of a state of emergency, the Board of Commissioners shall be authorized to take and/or direct such actions and issue such orders as are determined to be necessary to protect the public and property and to efficiently conduct activities that minimize or mitigate the effect of the emergency as authorized by ORS 401.309, the Hood River County Code and EOP.

3. The County Administrator and Emergency Manager shall take all necessary steps authorized by law to coordinate response and recovery from this emergency including, but not limited to, coordinating with the State of Oregon and federal government in order to qualify Hood River County for all available state and federal emergency assistance, use of shared resources, assistance from state and federal agencies, and financial assistance and reimbursements.

4. Emergency procurements of goods and services are authorized pursuant to ORS 279B.080, ORS 279C.335(6), ORS 279.380(4) and Hood River County contracting rules.

5. This Resolution shall be transmitted to the Oregon Office of Emergency Management.

**ADOPTED THIS 16<sup>th</sup> day of January 2024.**

**HOOD RIVER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

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**Jennifer Euwer, Chair**

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**Leticia Moretti, Commissioner District 1**

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**Arthur Babitz, Commissioner District 2**

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**Ed Weathers, Commissioner District 3**

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**Les Perkins, Commissioner District 4**