

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF PLUMAS
PROCLAIMING A LOCAL EMERGENCY AND REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR
PROCLAIM A STATE OF EMERGENCY
(PLUMAS COUNTY BLIZZARD & STORM EVENTS)

RESOLUTION 2023- 8767

WHEREAS, the Plumas County Board of Supervisors recognizes that conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property have arisen within Plumas County; caused by the Blizzard that hit the Sierra region and particularly Plumas County, and

WHEREAS, the Blizzard Warning throughout our region originated on Monday, February 26, 2023 through Wednesday, March 1, 2023; and

WHEREAS, another storm warning was in effect for March 4, 2023 through March 6, 2023, and more snow and rain storms are expected throughout March per the national weather service; and

WHEREAS, Plumas County is recovering from the Dixie Fire and many in our region are living in travel trailers and temporary housing through December 31, 2024 due to the loss of 700 homes in our county of 19,915 people. People living in these and other temporary structures are at more risk due to snow loads and freezing conditions; and

WHEREAS, per historical data, areas of Plumas County are close to their max snow loads. Some areas are at or near thresholds for snow load. The average snow load for Almanor Basin is 100 lbs per cubic square foot, some of the last totals are at approximately 80-100 lbs.; and

WHEREAS, Plumas County's only incorporated city had a boil-water-only alert due to freezing temperatures and issues with the water system, affecting 4,500 people; and

WHEREAS, Plumas County's population over 65 years old is 30% - double the State of California's average for this age group - and are less mobile and more vulnerable to these adverse conditions

WHEREAS, staffing is inadequate to cope with removal of the heavy snowfall. Streets remain unplowed due to shortages of essential Public Works employees, causing impacts to essential government services and a hazard for essential emergency first responders; and

WHEREAS, snow removal equipment and other road equipment has been damaged due to the heavy snowfall and while repairs are being attempted, the workload is extreme; and

WHEREAS, due to the significant accumulation of snow from the blizzard and other storms, the predicted rain storms may result in significant flooding; and

WHEREAS, aging HVAC systems throughout County buildings are being stressed and failing in some instances; and

WHEREAS, transportation in the area is significantly disrupted. Highway 70, one of the two major travel corridors is closed indefinitely and has been since the January storms. Highway 80 is sporadically closed as are Highway 32 and 36. Fuel and supplies are a concern. Store shelves are beginning to look bare; and

WHEREAS, schools have seen several days of closure as have County offices due to hazardous travel conditions in the Sierra region; and

WHEREAS, if there were a need for a shelter to open, Plumas residents could not get to it due to snow conditions, unplowed roads and projected heavy snow and rainfall rates.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Plumas, State of California, hereby proclaims that a local emergency exists throughout Plumas County due to the blizzard and snow conditions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Plumas, State of California, hereby directs that:

1. This Proclamation of Existence of a Local Emergency shall be renewed and deemed to continue to exist as provided by state law or until its termination is proclaimed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Plumas.
2. The Director of Emergency Services for the County of Plumas is hereby designated as the authorized representative of the County of Plumas for the purpose of receipt, processing, and coordination of all inquiries and requirements necessary to obtain State and Federal assistance, to include CDAA.
3. During the existence of said local emergency, competitive bidding and other local purchasing, bidding and procurement requirements related to the Local Emergency are suspended.
4. The Director of Emergency Services or his or her designee immediately forward a certified copy of this resolution proclaiming a local emergency with a request that the Governor continue to maintain a State of Emergency for the County of Plumas.
5. Plumas County is not formally requesting California Disaster Assistance Act funds at this time.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Plumas, State of California, on March 7, 2023, by the following vote:

AYES Supervisor(s) Goss, McGowan, Hagwood, Ceresola, Engel

NOTES: None

ABSENT: None

Dwight Ceresola
Dwig Ceresola, Chair
Plumas County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST



Heidi White
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors