

RESOLUTION NO. 23-011

**RESOLUTION
OF THE VENTURA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
RATIFYING A PROCLAMATION OF, AND PROCLAIMING, A LOCAL EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, Government Code Section 8630 authorizes the Board of Supervisors to proclaim the existence of a "local emergency;" and

WHEREAS, Government Code section 8558(c) defines "local emergency" as "the existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the territorial limits of a county ... caused by conditions such as air pollution, fire, flood, storm, epidemic, riot, drought, cyberterrorism, sudden and severe energy shortage, deenergization event, electromagnetic pulse attack, plant or animal infestation or disease, the Governor's warning of an earthquake or volcanic prediction, or an earthquake, or other conditions, other than conditions resulting from a labor controversy, which are or are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of that political subdivision and require the combined forces of other political subdivisions to combat:" and

WHEREAS, conditions of disaster and extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the County of Ventura have arisen as a result of January rainstorms that impacted Ventura County starting on January 8, 2023. The storm is believed to have been the strongest experienced in the region since 2005. Mandatory evacuations were ordered in numerous areas, affecting several thousand residents. Significantly impacted communities include La Conchita, Ojai, Oak View, Casitas Springs, Ventura, Piru and Fillmore. Both private structures and public infrastructure were impacted due to flooding and mudflow. As of the writing of this resolution, over \$30,000,000 in local damages has been estimated. Moreover, 85 private structures have been identified to have some level of damage, some of which were completely destroyed. At the time of the Sheriff's declaration the Ventura County Board of Supervisors (Board) was not in session, and said conditions constitute a local emergency as defined in Government Code section 8558, subdivision (c); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the powers granted by Ventura County Ordinance Code section 5323-1, as amended, for occasions when the Board is not in session, the Sheriff of Ventura County, acting as the County Director of Emergency Services, proclaimed the existence of a local emergency on January 17, 2023, which proclamation is subject to ratification by the Board at its next meeting within seven days thereafter; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the powers granted by Ventura County Ordinance Code section 5323-2, as amended, the Sheriff of Ventura County, acting as the County Director of Emergency Services, after proclaiming a local emergency, made and issued rules and regulations on matters reasonably related to the protection of life and property

as affected by the emergency, which rules and regulations must be confirmed at the earliest practicable time by the Board; and

WHEREAS, the Board acknowledges the existence of conditions of disaster and extreme peril as described above within the Ventura County operational area and that these conditions warranted and necessitated, and warrant and necessitate, that the County of Ventura proclaim the exigence of a local emergency and issue rules and regulations on matters reasonably related to the protection of life and property as affected by the emergencies;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HEREBY RESOLVES, PROCLAIMS AND ORDERS THAT:

1. A local emergency exists within Ventura County as a result of January rainstorms that impacted Ventura County starting on January 8, 2023, as described herein; and
2. The proclamation of local emergency by the Sheriff of Ventura County, acting as the County Director of Emergency Services, is hereby ratified, and the local emergency shall be deemed to continue to exist until its termination is proclaimed by the Board; and
3. The rules and regulations issued by the Sheriff of Ventura County, acting as the County Director of Emergency Services, on matters reasonably related to the protection of life and property as affected by the emergency are hereby confirmed; and
4. All County officials and employees cooperate and coordinate efforts with officials and employees of other political subdivisions and officials and employees of the state and federal government in bringing the present condition of local emergency and disaster under control; and
5. Within the next sixty (60) days that a report on the most recent conditions of the local emergency be presented to the Board of Supervisors so that the Board may determine whether conditions of emergency and disaster still exist; and
6. The County Executive Officer, or her designee, is hereby designated as the authorized representative of the County of Ventura for the purpose of receipt, processing and coordination of all inquiries and requirements necessary to obtain available state and federal assistance.
7. A copy of this proclamation be forwarded to the Governor of California and the California Director of Emergency Services in support of any applicable state Declaration of Emergency with a request that this proclamation be forwarded to the President of the United States with a request for federal assistance under a major disaster declaration.

On motion by Supervisor Long, seconded by Supervisor
Parvin, the foregoing resolution was passed and
adopted on January 24, 2023

Dated: 2/6/23

Walter J. V.
CHAIR, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ATTEST:

SEVET JOHNSON, PsyD
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors,
County of Ventura,
State of California.

By Don Key
Deputy Clerk

