

Board of County Commissioners

Minutes of the Proceedings - Draft

Historic Courthouse
310 W 19th Street
Cheyenne, WY 82001



Wednesday, March 17, 2021

1:00 PM

Via Zoom

Special Emergency Meeting to Discuss a Declaration of Emergency in Laramie County, WY.

The special meeting was conducted via Zoom to discuss and act on a Declaration of Emergency in Laramie County, WY.

Roll Call/Call to Order

Present: Chairman Gunnar Malm, Vice Chairman K. N. Buck Holmes, Commissioner Linda Heath, Commissioner Brian Lovett, Commissioner Troy Thompson

Resolutions

1. Discussion of Declaration of Emergency in Laramie County, WY, and any appropriate action that may be required.

[21 - 120](#)

Attachments: [210317-1 Resolution Declaring a State of Emergency Due to Winter Storm Xylia](#)

WY Homeland Security Director Lynn Budd and Section Chief Ashley Paulsrud, described the process to obtain funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Ms. Budd explained there would have to be at least \$1 million in damages statewide in order for a Presidential Declaration of Emergency to be signed. Ms. Budd noted that in order for Laramie County to qualify for reimbursement, county-level damages would need to be around \$357,000, based on preliminary figures.

Ms. Budd said Governor Mark Gordon did sign a declaration of emergency. A county declaration of emergency would set a timeline for the event and facilitate resources and assistance from the State. Ms. Budd said a 48-hour event period would need to be established for reimbursement. She noted federal government reimbursement is set at 75 percent with a local match of 25 percent in cash or in-kind contribution. Ms. Paulsrud explained an additional 48-hour period could be requested but approval would be required by FEMA headquarters. Ms. Paulsrud further explained she will send a preliminary damage assessment form to the County to determine its costs. The form needs to be completed within 30 days of the incident period.

There was discussion of possible flooding in the aftermath of the winter storm. EMA Director Jeanine West said the county's emergency declaration will also help with

getting additional assets from the State and partners in Colorado.

Chairman Malm questioned Ms. Budd about assistance for Laramie County's agricultural producers. Ms. Budd explained such assistance would have to be requested through local farm service agents to the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture.

A motion was made by Commissioner Thompson, seconded by Vice Chairman Holmes, to pass a resolution declaring a state of emergency in Laramie County, WY, due to Winter Storm Xylia. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Malm, Holmes, Heath, Lovett, Thompson

The meeting adjourned at 1:54 p.m.

Reasonable Accommodations

This information is available in alternate forms. If reasonable accommodations are required, contact Laramie County Human Resources at (307) 633-4355 or lchr320@laramiecounty.com at least two business days prior to the meeting.