

BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF FRESNO
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE MATTER REGARDING THE
2020 CREEK FIRE

RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING THE
EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL
EMERGENCY DUE TO THE WILDFIRE

WHEREAS, a local emergency continues to exist in the County of Fresno in accordance with the ratification and proclamation thereof by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Fresno on the 10th day of September, 2020, as a result of a crippling disaster, which severely impaired public health and public safety, created by the conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property which have arisen within the County caused by the 2020 Creek Fire commencing on September 4, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on September 5, 2020, the Emergency Services Director of the County of Fresno, proclaimed a local emergency due to the wildfire threat to the mountain communities of Big Creek, Huntington Lake, and Shaver Lake areas of the County; and

WHEREAS, on September 6, 2020, Governor Newsom proclaimed a state of emergency to exist in Fresno, Madera, and Mariposa Counties as a result of the Creek Fire, and made available State resources to assist in combating the wildfire; and

WHEREAS, on September 10, 2020, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Fresno ratified the proclamation by the Emergency Services Director and adopted Resolution No. 20-283 proclaiming the local emergency status; and

WHEREAS, this wildfire necessitated the evacuation of approximately 20,000 County residents; and

WHEREAS, approximately 379,895 acres burned and the wildfire is now 100 percent contained; and

WHEREAS, 856 structures and 5 businesses have been destroyed and millions of dollars in damages to public and private infrastructure has occurred; and

WHEREAS, the wildfire has damaged water and wastewater infrastructure and appurtenances; and

WHEREAS, on September 18, 2020, the Fresno County Interim Health Officer declared

1 a local health emergency to exist in the County of Fresno under the provisions of California
2 Health and Safety Code section 101080 pertaining to the amount of hazardous waste
3 generated by building debris including heavy metals, polychlorinated biphenyls, and
4 asbestos; and

5 WHEREAS, on October 16, 2020, the County of Fresno was included in a Federal
6 Major Disaster Declaration with Los Angeles, Madera, Mendocino, San Bernardino, San Diego
7 and Siskiyou counties as a result of wildfires. The Federal Declaration makes federal funding
8 available to affected individuals and local government; and

9 WHEREAS, the wildfire has caused loss of vegetation that will lead to erosion and
10 slope instability that may lead to flood and debris flows which threaten infrastructure and
11 safety; and

12 WHEREAS, the County and other local agencies will need to take expedited actions to
13 assess damages, stabilize, clear-up areas, and provide temporary services; and

14 WHEREAS, the County and other local agencies will need to take expedited actions to
15 mitigate these issues, including environmental assessments, permitting, engineering, and
16 contracting of repair or replacement work; and

17 WHEREAS, the Creek Fire is the second largest single fire in California's recorded
18 history and was beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, facilities and
19 finances of any single local government; and

20 WHEREAS, said emergency has continued and escalated in cumulated impact on this
21 County, and

22 WHEREAS, local resources are inadequate to cope with the recovery and effects of
23 said emergency.

24 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of the
25 County of Fresno, State of California, that said local emergency shall be deemed to continue to
26 exist until its termination is proclaimed by the Board of Supervisors.

27 IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED AND REQUESTED that the Governor of California
28 continue to make available assistance programs including, but not limited to, California
29 Disaster Assistance Act, and continue to request additional Federal assistance programs to
30
31
32

1 provide relief to the individuals, businesses, public and private agencies that were harmed by
2 this disaster.

3 IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the State
4 Director of the Office of Emergency Services.

5 THE FOREGOING, was passed and adopted by the following vote of the Board of
6 Supervisors of the County of Fresno this 12th day of July, 2022, to-wit:
7
8

9 AYES: Supervisors Brandau, Magsig, Mendes, Pacheco, Quintero

10 NOES: None

11 ABSENT: None

12 ABSTAINED: None
13
14

15 Brian Pacheco, Chairman of the
16 Board of Supervisors of the County of Fresno
17

18 **ATTEST:**

19 Bernice E. Seidel
20 Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
21 County of Fresno, State of California

22 By:
23 Deputy
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32