

BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF FRESNO
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE MATTER REGARDING THE 2020
CREEK FIRE IN FRESNO COUNTY

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

WHEREAS, California Health and Safety Code, Division 101, Part 3, Chapter 2, Article 2, Sections 101075 through 101095, confer upon Local Health Officers of the political subdivisions of the State of California, emergency powers necessary to protect public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, Section 101080 of the California Health and Safety Code authorizes a Local Health Officer to declare a local health emergency whenever the Local Health Officer reasonably determines that hazardous waste or waste that may become hazardous waste, is an immediate threat to public health; and

WHEREAS, Section 101075 of the California Health and Safety Code defines hazardous waste as waste or combination of wastes, that because of its quality, concentration, or physical chemical, or infectious characteristics may do any of the following: (1) cause, or significantly contribute to an increase in mortality or an increase in serious irreversible, or incapacitating reversible, illness; or (2) pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health or environment when improperly treated, stored, transported, or disposed of, or otherwise managed; 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, debris and ash from structure fires can contain hazardous substances. Building materials such as siding, roofing tiles, insulation, or household items such as paint, gasoline, cleaning products, pesticides, compressed gas cylinders, and chemicals can result in dangerous ash that contains asbestos, heavy metals, and other hazardous materials; and

1 WHEREAS, hazardous debris that remains after a wildfire can expose residents to
2 toxic materials, improper transport and disposal of fire debris can create dangerous health
3 impacts to workers removing the debris, such debris can threaten water supplies, and such
4 harmful material can spread throughout the community at large; and

5 WHEREAS, on September 18, 2020, the Fresno County Interim Health Officer
6 declared a local health emergency to exist in the County of Fresno under the provisions of
7 California Health and Safety Code section 101080; and

8 WHEREAS, on September 22, 2020, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Fresno
9 ratified the Interim Health Officer's Local Health Emergency.
10

11 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of the
12 County of Fresno, that a Local Health Emergency exists throughout Fresno County and that
13 said Local Health Emergency shall be deemed to continue to exist until its termination is
14 proclaimed by the Board of Supervisors.

15 IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that a copy of this Resolution be
16 forwarded to the State Director of the Office of Emergency Services.


17 THE FOREGOING, was passed and adopted by the following vote of the Board of
18 Supervisors of the County of Fresno this 16th day of November, 2021, to-wit:
19

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


21 NOES: None

22 ABSENT: None

23 ABSTAINED: None

24 
25 _____
26 Steve Brandau, Chairman of the
27 Board of Supervisors of the County of Fresno

28 **ATTEST:**
29 Bernice E. Seidel
30 Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
31 County of Fresno, State of California

32 By: 
Deputy