

**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 presently exists 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 10<sup>th</sup> 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 a resolution proclaiming the local emergency status; and

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

WHEREAS, approximately 379,802 acres have burned and the wildfire is 70 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, this wildfire continues to threaten people, homes, businesses, public and private agencies, and critical infrastructure; and

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

3 WHEREAS, on September 18, 2020, the Fresno County Interim Health Officer declared  
4 a local health emergency to exist in the County of Fresno under the provisions of California  
5 Health and Safety Code section 101080 pertaining to the amount of hazardous waste  
6 generated by the building debris including heavy metals, polychlorinated biphenyls, and  
7 asbestos; and

8 WHEREAS, on October 16, 2020, the County of Fresno was included in a Federal  
9 Major Disaster Declaration with Los Angeles, Madera, Mendocino, San Bernardino, San Diego  
10 and Siskiyou counties as a result of wildfires. The President's action makes federal funding  
11 available to affected individuals and local government.  
12

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

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

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

21 WHEREAS, the Creek Fire is the largest single fire in California's recorded history and  
22 is beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, facilities and finances of any single  
23 local government; and  
24

25 WHEREAS, said emergency has continued and escalated in cumulated impact on this  
26 County, and

27 WHEREAS, local resources are inadequate to cope with the effects of said emergency;

28 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of the  
29 County of Fresno, State of California, that said local emergency shall be deemed to continue to  
30 exist until its termination is proclaimed by the Board of Supervisors;

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1 IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED AND REQUESTED that the Governor of California  
2 continue make available assistance programs including, but not limited to, California Disaster  
3 Assistance Act, and continue to request additional Federal assistance programs to provide  
4 relief to the individuals, businesses, public and private agencies that were harmed by this  
5 disaster; and

6 IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the State  
7 Director of the Office of Emergency Services; and

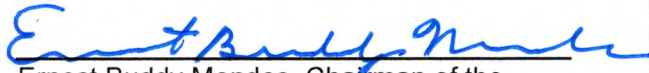
8 THE FOREGOING, was passed and adopted by the following vote of the Board of  
9 Supervisors of the County of Fresno this 18<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2020, to-wit:  
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12 AYES: Supervisors Brandau, Magsig, Mendes, Pacheco, Quintero

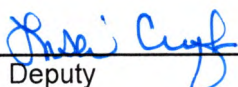
13 NOES: None

14 ABSENT: None

15 ABSTAINED: None

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18 Ernest Buddy Mendes, Chairman of the  
19 Board of Supervisors of the County of Fresno  
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21 **ATTEST:**  
22 Bernice E. Seidel  
23 Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
24 County of Fresno, State of California

25 By:   
26 Deputy  
27  
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