



RESOLUTION No. 21-179

OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF NEVADA

RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING A LOCAL EMERGENCY IN NEVADA COUNTY DUE TO THE EFFECTS OF THE STATEWIDE EXTREME DROUGHT AND RECURRENT PUBLIC SAFETY POWER SHUTOFF EVENTS

WHEREAS, the State of California is responding to a statewide drought that directly impacts Nevada County. This drought is driven by climate change and will have an ongoing effect on our environment, economy and residents. Our County should prepare for potential sustained dry conditions, in alignment with State agencies that are preparing for a third dry year; and

WHEREAS, California is in its second year of dry conditions and much of the State is in either a Severe or Extreme Drought; and

WHEREAS, most of Nevada County is under an Extreme Drought which by definition affects local livestock pasture and feeding, agriculture cycles and agricultural irrigation timing and availability; and

WHEREAS, the Extreme Drought also has an effect on the local wildfire threat. The drought will continue to dry out our forests and fuels that are already struggling from previous years droughts and climate change. These dry fuels will be more susceptible to burning with the increased fire weather our community is seeing. These dry fuels coupled with increased fire weather will increase the risk to PG&E's infrastructure, likely driving increased duration and frequency of Public Safety Power Shutoffs in our community; and

WHEREAS, rainfall totals are lower than average throughout Nevada County reporting only 50% of its average rainfall as of April 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, on April 21, 2021, the Governor of the State of California Proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist in California due to the current and potential impacts caused by the widespread drought conditions and on May 10, 2021 expanded the Declaration of Emergency to include a total of 41 counties, including Nevada County; and

WHEREAS, on April 28th, 2021, the Nevada Irrigation District ("District") proclaimed a drought emergency for its service area which includes Nevada, Placer and Yuba counties. This moves the District into Stage 1 of its Drought Contingency Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors finds that the effects of the Statewide drought on the County of Nevada constitutes a local emergency and emergency situation as set forth in California Government Code sections 8558 and 8630; and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid conditions of extreme peril warrant and necessitate the Proclamation of the Existence of a Local Emergency; and

WHEREAS, these conditions are likely to be beyond the control, capacity, and resources of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of Nevada County, and local resources are unable to cope with the effects of said emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Nevada, State of California hereby proclaims that a local emergency now exists throughout Nevada County due to the extreme and ongoing drought in the State of California and the recurrent Public Safety Power Shutoffs that occur in response to extreme weather conditions resulting in high fire danger in Nevada County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Nevada, State of California, hereby directs that:

1. The Proclamation of Existence of a Local Emergency shall be renewed and deemed to continue to exist as provided by state law or until its termination is proclaimed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Nevada.
2. The Director of Emergency Services for the County of Nevada, is hereby designated as the authorized representative of the County of Nevada for the purpose of receipt, processing, and coordination of all inquiries and requirements necessary to obtain available State and Federal assistance.
3. The Director of Emergency Services or his designee immediately forward a certified copy of this resolution proclaiming a local emergency to the Governor of California aligning the County of Nevada with the Drought Proclamation by the State.
4. During the existence of said local emergency the powers, functions, and duties of the Director of Emergency Services, or his designee, and the emergency organization of the County shall be those prescribed by state law, local ordinance and resolutions of this county approved by the Board of Supervisors, as approved by the Board of Supervisors.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Nevada at a regular meeting of said Board, held on the 25th day of May, 2021, by the following vote of said Board:

Ayes: Supervisors Heidi Hall, Edward Scofield, Dan Miller, Susan K. Hoek and Hardy Bullock.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

Abstain: None.

ATTEST:

JULIE PATTERSON HUNTER
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: 



Dan Miller, Chair

5/25/2021 cc: OES*
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