



MARIPOSA COUNTY

Administration • 209-966-3222



RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2014-470

MEETING: September 9, 2014

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Rick Benson, County Administrative Officer

RE: Adopt Resolution Ratifying Declaration Proclaiming Existence of a Local Emergency

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:

(A) Make a finding per Government Code Section 54954.2(b)(2) that there is a need to take immediate action and that the need for action came to the attention of your Board subsequent to the agenda being posted.

Your Board may discuss an item which was not previously placed on the agenda at a regular meeting, provided that there is a need for immediate action which cannot reasonably wait for the next regularly scheduled meeting. The need for immediate action must have come to the attention of the Board after the agenda was posted and a four-fifths vote is required.

The wild land fire known as the Bridge Fire started on September 5, 2014, after the September 4, 2014 preparation and posting of the September 9, 2014 meeting agenda.

(B) It is recommended that your Board adopt the attached Resolution ratifying the attached Declaration Proclaiming Existence Of A Local Emergency And Requesting (1) The Governor To Proclaim A State Of Emergency; And (2) Requesting A Presidential Declaration Of A State Of Emergency Proclaiming Existence Of A Local Emergency And Requesting The Governor Of The State Of California And The President Of The United States To Proclaim A State Of Emergency For The County of Mariposa.

On September 5, 2014 Vice-Chairman Jones, acting in his capacity as the Director of Emergency Services in the absence of Chairman Cann, pursuant to Mariposa County Code Section 2.80.040, issued the attached Declaration proclaiming a local emergency as a result of the Bridge Fire. Pursuant to Government Code Section 8630, whenever a local emergency is proclaimed by an official designated by ordinance, the local emergency shall not remain in effect for a period in excess of seven days unless it has been ratified by the governing Board.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS: Your Board has ratified similar declarations during other emergencies.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION: If your Board does not ratify the Vice-Chairman's declaration, the County will not be eligible for possible State or Federal disaster assistance.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

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ATTACHMENTS:

2014 Bridge Fire Emergency Resolution (PDF)

2014 Bridge Fire Proclamation (PDF)

CAO RECOMMENDATION

Requested Action Recommended

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Merlin Jones, District II Supervisor

SECONDER: Lee Stetson, District I Supervisor

AYES: Stetson, Jones, Bibby, Cann, Carrier

RESOLUTION NO. 14-470

RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE DECLARATION OF THE EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY AND REQUESTING A DECLARATION PROCLAIMING THE EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY AND REQUESTING; (1) THE GOVERNOR TO PROCLAIM A STATE OF EMERGENCY FOR THE COUNTY OF MARIPOSA AND (2) REQUESTING A PRESIDENTIAL DECLARATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY FOR THE COUNTY OF MARIPOSA

WHEREAS, Section 8630 of the Government Code mandates that a local emergency may be proclaimed by the governing body of a local agency, or, if it has been previously declared by an official designated by the governing body, such local emergency must be ratified within 7 days by the governing body of the local agency; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors does hereby find that conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property have arisen within Mariposa County, caused by the Bridge Fire commencing on or about September 5, 2014; and

WHEREAS, the Vice-Chair of the Board of Supervisors, serving in his capacity as Director of Emergency Services of Mariposa County, in the absence of the Chairman, on September 5th, 2014 declared the existence of a local emergency and requested the Governor of the State of California and President of the United States to proclaim a state of emergency in the County of Mariposa as a result of the Bridge Fire; and

WHEREAS, in the south of and in the Chowchilla River Drainage area, in the vicinity of the William Sells Bridge, adjacent to Highway 49S, the Bridge Fire has caused and is causing ongoing damage to County and other public and district facilities, including but not limited to, roads and structures, the extent of which has not been completely compiled and at a cost which is unknown at this time; and

WHEREAS, the Bridge Fire posed an immediate threat to numerous private homes and other structures and the Chowchilla River Watershed; and

WHEREAS, local resources were deployed to the Bridge Fire within Mariposa County, thereby depleting fire protection and response resources; and

WHEREAS, it has now been found that local resources were unable to cope with the effects of this emergency; and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid conditions of extreme peril warranted and necessitated the proclamation of a local emergency;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY PROCLAIMED that a local emergency now exists throughout Mariposa County and the prior Declaration of Emergency issued by the Emergency Services Director is hereby ratified; and

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that during the existence of the local emergency the powers, functions, and duties of the Director of Emergency Services and the emergency services organization of the County shall be those prescribed by state law, by ordinances, and by resolutions of Mariposa County approved by the Board of Supervisors; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Governor of the State of California and the President of the United States with the request that they proclaim that the County of Mariposa continues to be in a state of emergency; and


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

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Mariposa County Administrative Officer/ Emergency Services Officer, or his/her designee, is hereby designated as the local Hazard Mitigation Coordinator of the County of Mariposa for the purpose of assessing damage within Mariposa County and consulting with federal/state survey teams about hazard mitigation actions; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Mariposa County Administrative Officer, or his/her designee, is hereby designated as the authorized representative for public assistance, and the Mariposa County Administrative Officer, or his/her designee, is hereby designated as the authorized representative for individual assistance of the County of Mariposa for purpose of receipt, processing and coordination of all inquiries and requirements necessary to obtain available state and federal assistance.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mariposa, a political subdivision of the State of California, this 9th day of September, 2014 by the following vote:


AYES: STETSON, JONES, BIBBY, CANN, CARRIER
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: NONE
ABSTAINED: NONE



KEVIN CANN, Chair
Mariposa County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



RENÉ LaROCHE
Clerk of the Board



STEVEN W. DAHLEM
County Counsel

**DECLARATION PROCLAIMING EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY
AND REQUESTING; (1) THE GOVERNOR TO PROCLAIM A STATE OF
EMERGENCY; AND (2) REQUESTING A PRESIDENTIAL DECLARATION OF A
STATE OF EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, Section 8630 of the Government Code and Chapter 2.80 of the Mariposa County Ordinance Code authorizes the Director of Emergency Services to proclaim the existence of a local emergency within the County of Mariposa when it is affected or likely to be affected by the existence or threatened existence of conditions of emergency or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the territorial limits of Mariposa County caused by fire; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Emergency Services does hereby find that conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property have arisen within Mariposa County, caused by the Bridge Fire commencing on or about September 5, 2014; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors is not in session, and that conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and to property have arisen within Mariposa County and local emergency response agencies are faced with being extended beyond their functional capabilities because of the Bridge fire within Mariposa County; and

WHEREAS, south of and in the Chowchilla River Drainage area, in the vicinity of the William Sells Bridge, adjacent to Highway 49S, the Bridge Fire is causing ongoing damage to County and other public and district facilities, including but not limited to, roads and structures, the extent of which has not been completely compiled and at a cost which is unknown at this time; and

WHEREAS, the Bridge Fire is posing an immediate threat to numerous private homes and other structures in the community of Ponderosa Basin and to the Chowchilla River Watershed; and

WHEREAS, local resources have been deployed to the Bridge Fire within Mariposa County, thereby depleting fire protection and response resources; and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid conditions of extreme peril warrant and necessitate the proclamation of a local emergency;

WHEREAS, it has now been found that local resources are unable to cope with the effects of this emergency;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY DECLARED that a local emergency now exists throughout Mariposa County; and

IT IS FURTHER DECLARED AND ORDERED that during the existence of the local emergency the powers, functions, and duties of the Director of Emergency Services and the emergency services organization of the County shall be those prescribed by state law, by ordinances, and by resolutions of Mariposa County approved by the Board of Supervisors; and

IT IS FURTHER DECLARED AND ORDERED that a copy of this Declaration be forwarded to the Governor of the State of California and the President of the United States with the request that they proclaim the County of Mariposa to be in a state of emergency; and

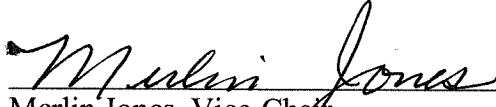
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this Declaration be forwarded to the State Director of the Office of Emergency Services; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Mariposa County Administrative Officer and Emergency Services Officer, or his/her designee, is hereby designated as the local Hazard Mitigation Coordinator of the County of Mariposa for the purpose of assessing damage within Mariposa County and consulting with federal/state survey teams about hazard mitigation actions; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Mariposa County Administrative Officer, or his/her designee, is hereby designated as the authorized representative for public assistance, and the Mariposa County Administrative Officer, or his/her designee, is hereby designated as the authorized representative for individual assistance of the County of Mariposa for purpose of receipt, processing and coordination of all inquiries and requirements necessary to obtain available state and federal assistance; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Mariposa County Administrative Officer, or his/her designee, place on the agenda of the Board of Supervisors for their meeting of September 9 , 2014, a proposed resolution for adoption ratifying this declaration.

This Declaration is issued this 5th day of September, 2014, by the Mariposa County Director of Emergency Services pursuant to the authority granted to the Director of Emergency Services by Mariposa County Code section 2.80.040



Merlin Jones, Vice-Chair
Mariposa County Board of Supervisors
Director of Emergency Services

ATTEST:



RENÉ LaROCHE
Clerk of the Board



RICHARD J. BENSON
County Administrative Officer

P. O. Box 784
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**MARIPOSA COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Fax

To: Press **From:** René LaRoche, Clerk of the Board

Fax: (916) 845-8910 **Pages:** 3

Phone: **Date:** September 5, 2014

Re: Declaration of Local Emergency **CC:**

Urgent **For Review** **Please Comment** **Please Reply** **Please Recycle**

● **Comments:**

Attached please find the Declaration Proclaiming Existence of a Local Emergency and Requesting (1) the Governor to Proclaim a State of Emergency; and (2) a Presidential Declaration of a State of Emergency for Mariposa County as a result of the El Portal Fire which was signed by Merlin Jones, Vice-Chair of the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors and Director of Emergency Services this date.

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SENDING REPORT

Sep. 05 2014 05:52PM

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