

Deputy Clerk MBASS1

EMERGENCY DECLARATION

No. 2021-071

**A DECLARATION BY LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA, FOR A
LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY.**

WHEREAS, Levy County ("County"), through its Chair of the Board of County Commissioners ("Chair") and Board of County Commissioners ("Board"), finds that extreme drought causes an increased potential for brush fires and extreme fire conditions, which fires and extreme fire conditions, through the spread of flames and smoke and other related results from fires, create a threat to the public health, safety and welfare by threatening the safety of human life, animal life, the ecosystems in Levy County, and to public and private property; and

WHEREAS, brush fires have been burning recently in the County, creating a natural disaster in and around those areas of the County where fires are located; and

WHEREAS, conditions of extreme drought throughout the County and forest and brush fires within certain areas of the County create an imminent threat of natural disaster to arise in and spread to areas of the County beyond those that may have experienced recent fires; and

WHEREAS, strict compliance with some procedures and formalities prescribing procedures for the conduct of County business may hinder necessary action in coping with any emergency related to the natural disaster currently existing and with the spread or imminent threat of the spread of such natural disaster;

WHEREAS, the County desires to ensure that all possible efforts are being made to protect human life, animal life, the ecosystems in the County, and public and private property.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that:

Section 1. Declaration of Local State of Emergency. As a result of drought conditions in the County and the imminent and ongoing threat of forest and brush fires throughout the County arising from such drought conditions, a Local State of Emergency be and is hereby declared for Levy County, Florida, effective immediately. The Local State of Emergency will remain in effect within the unincorporated areas of Levy County, Florida for seven (7) days from the date hereof and may be extended by Emergency Declaration as necessary in seven (7) day increments.

Section 2. Waiver of Procedures and Formalities Otherwise Required. Due to the Local State of Emergency, effective immediately, the procedures and formalities required of the County by law or ordinance are hereby suspended as they pertain to:

- (a) Performance of public work and taking whatever prudent action is necessary to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the community;
- (b) Entering into contracts;
- (c) Incurring obligations;
- (d) Employment of permanent and temporary workers;
- (e) Utilization of volunteer works;
- (f) Rental of equipment;
- (g) Acquisition and distribution, with or without compensation, of supplies, materials and facilities; and
- (h) Appropriation and expenditure of public funds.

Suspension of such procedures as provided herein shall be at the direction of the County Coordinator upon consultation with representatives from the Florida Forest Service of the State of Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services ("Florida Forest Service") and the County Emergency Management Director, if such consultation is practicable.

Section 3. Additional Waivers. The Board of County Commissioners also hereby waives any procedures or formalities otherwise required by policy or law that may authorized by Section 252.38, Florida Statutes, by Article II, Chapter 30, Levy County Code, or by any other state or federal authority with jurisdiction.

Section 4. Delegation of Authority. The Board of County Commissioners hereby appoints the County Coordinator as the County Coordinating Officer in relation to the Local State of Emergency declared herein, and that the County Coordinator is authorized to take all action necessary and appropriate to secure resources to protect human life and property and to utilize all lawful authority granted to the County under State and County laws as necessary to accomplish same. The County Coordinator shall be given the authority to implement and administer any applicable provisions of County disaster emergency plans, agreements or supporting documents, upon consultation with representatives from the Florida Forest Service and the County Emergency Management Director, if such consultation is practicable.

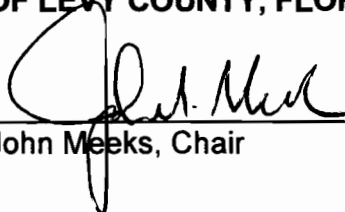
Section 5. Alterations or Rescission. This declaration of a Local State of Emergency may be altered or rescinded by the issuance of an appropriate declaration of the Board of County Commissioners as provided in Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, and Article II, Chapter 30, Levy County Code.

Section 6. Effective Period. This emergency declaration is effective from adoption by the Chair of the Board of County Commissioners through the 8th day of June, 2021, and may be extended in seven (7) day increments by the Chair.

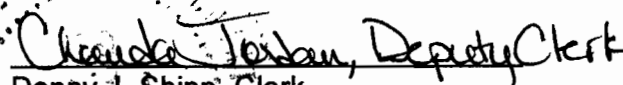
DULY ADOPTED BY THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS this 1st day of June, 2021, and ratified by the Board of County Commissioners this 8th day of June, 2021.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA**

ATTEST:
Clerk of the Circuit Court
and Ex Officio Clerk to the
Board of County Commissioners



John Meeks, Chair



Chandra Jordan, Deputy Clerk
Danny J. Shipp, Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY


Anne Bast Brown, County Attorney 