

STATE OF LOUISIANA
CITY OF WEST MONROE

RESOLUTION NO. _____

MOTION BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

A RESOLUTION TO DECLARE A PUBLIC EMERGENCY UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF R.S. 38:2212(P). WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN REMEDIATION AND REPAIRS TO AREAS OF THE WEST MONROE SPORTS AND EVENTS CENTER; AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, during Winter Storm Fern, the severe weather event occurring January 23, 2026 through January 27, 2026, a buildup of ice resulted in the unanticipated alteration and/or blockage of certain drainage patterns, resulting in water unexpectedly draining under door thresholds and back into areas of the West Monroe Indoor Sports Complex and Events Center (hereinafter sometimes referred to as the “Sports Complex”); and

WHEREAS, although that flow of water was stopped as soon as it was discovered, by that time it had flowed back into the Sports Complex arena and into certain sideline and court areas, soaking the wooden flooring and subfloor; and,

WHEREAS, while those areas were promptly and thoroughly surface-dried by the on-premises staff, several days later the flooring began to severely swell and buckle; and

WHEREAS, when upon initially removing the warped and buckled areas, it was further determined there was evidence of residual moisture with potential mold growth, and a delay in addressing these issues will result in an increased risk of a more significant concern for those now utilizing the Sports Complex as well as affecting the extent of the efforts necessary to eliminate this issue and its effects; and

WHEREAS, the continuing presence of the dampened wood flooring and sub-flooring contributes to this condition because of the inability to properly maintain moisture control, which is currently further limited due to damage to several air handler systems; and

WHEREAS, almost all of the awnings outside of the fire exit doors incurred some level of damage, from partial to total collapse, and it is imperative that these obstructions be removed quickly to maintain the required fire safety standards since the building is still being occupied and utilized for events to the fullest extent possible; and

WHEREAS, although most local events impacted by the damages have been modified or cancelled, a number of long-scheduled contracted regional and national events cannot be so

modified or cancelled without significant hardship due to the inability to timely obtain suitable alternate facilities and necessary area accommodations, and the significant adverse financial effects on the Sports Complex and the City of West Monroe if those events cannot still occur as scheduled; and

WHEREAS, it is believed by the City of West Monroe that the cost of each of the necessary independent repairs to the Sports Complex will fall below the amount that would ordinarily require the City of West Monroe to follow the procedures set forth in R.S. 38:2212, however, declaring this Public Emergency will allow the City of West Monroe to timely proceed with the necessary repairs even if a cost unexpectedly exceeds that amount, as set forth in R.S. 38:2212(C), currently \$260,000.00.

NOW, THEREFORE,

SECTION 1. BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of West Monroe, Louisiana, in regular and legal session convened, that the City of West Monroe hereby declares and certifies a public emergency under the provisions of R.S. 38:2212(P) with respect to each of the remediations and/or repairs now required to be performed in certain areas of the West Monroe Sports and Events Center.

SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen of the City of West Monroe, Louisiana, in regular and legal session convened, that the City of West Monroe shall publish this Resolution in the Ouachita Citizen, the official journal of the City of West Monroe, as required by R.S. 38:2212(P)(1)(a), and any and all contracts that are negotiated under the authority of this Declaration shall be properly documented and fully comply with the requirements of R.S. 38:2212(P)(2).

SECTION 3. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of West Monroe, Louisiana, in regular and legal session convened, that Staci Albritton Mitchell, as Mayor of the City of West Monroe, Louisiana, be and she is hereby further authorized to take any and all actions as she determines appropriate, and to execute any and all further documents she deems either necessary or proper to carry out the activities arising out of the declaration of public emergency described above according to its terms and its intent.

The above Resolution was read and considered by Sections at a public meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen, in regular and legal session convened on the 3rd day of March, 2026, voted upon by yea and nay vote, passed and adopted, the final vote being as follows:

YEA: _____

NAY: _____

NOT VOTING: _____

ABSENT: _____

ATTEST:

APPROVED THIS 3RD DAY OF
MARCH, 2026

ANDREA PATE, CITY CLERK
CITY OF WEST MONROE
STATE OF LOUISIANA

STACI ALBRITTON MITCHELL, MAYOR
CITY OF WEST MONROE
STATE OF LOUISIANA