

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

In the Matter of a Declaration of a State of
Emergency due to Severe Weather Event

RESOLUTION NO. 67 - 2015

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners, Columbia County, Oregon has experienced a severe fall storm event involving significant rain, causing flooding in the City of Vernonia, the City of St. Helens, and the City of Rainier, and in unincorporated Columbia County, severely taxing County resources; and

WHEREAS, the City of Vernonia, the City of St. Helens, and the City of Rainier have declared emergencies and have requested that the County seek a proclamation of emergency from the Governor; and

WHEREAS, Columbia County, its cities, public utilities, police, fire and emergency management agencies, and other public and private agencies, are likely to suffer from the stretched resources, overtime costs and unusual expenses in responding to the effects of the fall storm and flooding event; and

WHEREAS, the effects of this event have exhausted local resources available to deal with the event, have required a coordinated response beyond that which occurs routinely, and are beyond that which can be addressed by mutual aid agreements and cooperative assistance agreements which have been entered into to respond to events such as this; and

WHEREAS, a preliminary assessment of property damage or loss, injuries and deaths is as follows: river flooding in City of Vernonia and the City of Rainier, urban flooding in the County and all three Cities caused by rain, road damage caused by downed trees, water, and wind, damage to residential and commercial/industrial property caused by flood water, some roads inaccessible to public services, including public health; and

WHEREAS, it appears that the extent of damages and assistance needed may be beyond the capabilities of Columbia County to provide the needed response and assistance;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED AND DECLARED that, effective December 8, 2015, and more specifically, when the Incident Commander states that all County resources have been exhausted, a state of local emergency will exist throughout Columbia County, as defined by ORS 401.025(1), due to a fall storm and flooding event in Columbia County, Oregon, including the Cities of Vernonia, St. Helens, and Rainier, and damages sustained and costs incurred as a result thereof.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the Columbia County Board of Commissioners may request assistance to respond to the state of emergency, such request to be detailed in a separate letter to the Governor of the State of Oregon.

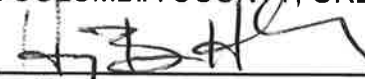
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IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be transmitted to the Oregon Office of
Emergency Management.

DATED this 8th day of December, 2015.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

By:



Henry Heimuller, Chair

Approved as to form

By: 
Office of County Counsel