



Return To:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
219 E. Cherry Ave.,  
Flagstaff, AZ 86001

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**\*Resolution 2023-08 is being re-recorded to correct the date in which the resolution was Passed and Adopted to "28<sup>th</sup> day of February and to note the vote for Ayes, nos and absent.**

**RESOLUTION 2023-08**

**AN EMERGENCY DECLARATION  
OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF COCONINO COUNTY  
PURSUANT TO A.R.S. § 26-311**

**WHEREAS**, A.R.S. § 26-311 allows the Board of Supervisors to give authority, by resolution or ordinance, to its Chairperson to declare by proclamation the existence of an emergency or a local emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, A.R.S. § 26-311 allows such authorization to be granted for emergencies due to fire, conflagration, flood, earthquake, explosion, war, bombing, acts of the enemy or any other natural or man-made calamity or disaster or by reason of threats or occurrences of riots, routs, affrays, or other acts of civil disobedience which engender life or property within the unincorporated areas of the county, or portion thereof; and

**WHEREAS**, on June 22, 2021, the Board of Supervisors approved Resolution 2021-29 giving its Chair authority to declare an emergency or a local emergency by proclamation and to take any other action as authorized pursuant to A.R.S. § 26-311.

**WHEREAS**, upon the declaration of an emergency, the chairperson has the authority to govern by proclamation and has the authority to impose all necessary regulations to preserve the peace and order of the unincorporated areas of the county; and

**WHEREAS**, the declaration of an emergency allows counties to utilize additional resources from the State and federal government, and seek mutual aid from other jurisdictions to address the emergency and its impacts; and

**WHEREAS**, Coconino County has experienced severe snowfall and cold temperatures and may experience other emergencies in which an immediate response is more effective than a response that requires action of a quorum of the Board of Supervisors and the associated notice requirements prior to such action; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors of Coconino County does hereby find that conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property have arisen within Coconino County due to a significant winter storm producing impactful levels of precipitation and high winds beginning at 0100 hours on February 22, 2023 and continuing throughout Coconino County with increasing intensity. Winds in excess of 70 miles per hour occurred throughout Coconino County, and at times reached speeds equivalent to a Category 1 Hurricane. At 0200 hours on February 22, 2023 a thunderstorm was identified and persisted throughout the morning as a snowstorm when temperatures fell. The rain, snowfall, and hurricane force winds created whiteout conditions that made travel difficult across Coconino County, impossible in certain areas, and hazardous universally.

**WHEREAS**, the effects of the event caused considerable life safety concerns in regard to:

- Snowplow operations unable to keep City and County roadways, City and County parking lots, and accessible walkways of County buildings clear.
- A number of municipal buildings and businesses and the Flagstaff Unified School District in the Flagstaff area along with several buildings in the City of Williams have closed as a result of the significant winter storm impacts and concurrent hazardous travel conditions.
- Widespread power outages occurred throughout Coconino County, leaving thousands of residents without electricity, which necessitated the activation of warming stations in Munds Park and Flagstaff.
- Near blizzard conditions crippled visibility and prompted closure of Interstate 40 in both directions within Coconino County.
- Winter storm impacts are expected to continue in subsequent waves through Sunday February 26, 2023, bringing additional snow and high winds.

**NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED** that a local emergency now exists in Coconino County, and

**IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED** that, during the existence of said local emergency, the powers, functions, and duties of the emergency organization of Coconino County shall be those prescribed by State law, ordinances and resolutions of Coconino County and Coconino County Emergency Operations Plan, to include:

1. Closure of County Offices with the exclusion of justice-related offices starting February 23, 2023 through March 03, 2023.
2. Citizens are urged to cooperate with this Emergency Declaration and, to every degree possible, abide by the safety announcements, advisories and restrictions established by and to cooperate with the community's public safety agencies and emergency services personnel.

PURSUANT TO A.R.S. §38-431.02, as amended, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the general public that during the declared State of Emergency a possible quorum of the Coconino County Board of Supervisors may be in attendance during periodic Coconino County Emergency Operations Center and incident debriefs; however, no formal discussion/action will be taken by members in their role as the Coconino County Board of Supervisors.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this <sup>28<sup>th</sup></sup> day of February 2023.

**AYES:** 4  
**NOS:** 0  
**ABSENT:** 1




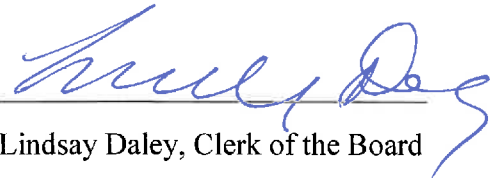
**COCONINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Patrice Horstman, Chair

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

**ATTEST:**

  
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for  
Monique Coady, Sr. Deputy County Attorney

  
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Lindsay Daley, Clerk of the Board