



# Marion County

## Board of County Commissioners

### Meeting Agenda

McPherson Governmental Campus  
601 SE 25th Ave.  
Ocala, FL 34471  
Phone: 352-438-2323  
Fax: 352-438-2324

District 1 – Craig Curry, Commissioner  
District 2 – Kathy Bryant, Vice-Chair  
District 3 – Matthew McClain, Commissioner  
District 4 – Carl Zalak, III, Commissioner  
District 5 – Michelle Stone, Chair

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**Sunday, October 6, 2024**

**12:30 PM**

**McPherson Governmental  
Campus Auditorium**

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### **Special Meeting to Discuss Declaration of State of Emergency**

The Marion County Board of County Commissioners welcomes you to its regularly scheduled meeting held the first and third Tuesday of each month at 9 a.m. unless otherwise noted. The zoning portion of the meeting is also held on the third Tuesday of each month at 2 p.m.

All commission and zoning meetings are open to the public.

Pre-screening will be conducted upon entering the administrative building, located at 601 SE 25th Ave., Ocala, FL 34471.

As a courtesy to others, silence your cell phones and other electronic devices before entering the auditorium. If you need to take a call, please step outside.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

To encourage participation, ensure equal access to all participants and foster mutual respect, please follow these guidelines.

#### **-Regular BCC Meeting**

-There are two (2) public comment portions on the agenda, one reserved for comments related to items specifically listed on the agenda, and one for all other comments.

-To be allotted five (5) minutes, you must sign up the Friday prior to the meeting that you wish to speak at. You can sign up online at <https://marionfl.org/comment> or via phone at 352-438-2300.

-Those who do not submit a request in advance (by 5:00 p.m. the Friday prior) are still welcome to sign up at the desk located in the foyer of the commission auditorium on the day of the meeting, but will only be allotted two (2) minutes.

#### **-BCC Planning and Zoning Meeting**

-Public Comments during the Planning and Zoning portion of the meeting will be limited to two (2) minutes per speaker. You must sign in at the desk located in the foyer of the commission auditorium on the day of the meeting.

Marion County staff is available throughout each meeting for your convenience.

Anyone requiring accommodations due to a disability or physical impairment should contact Marion County Administration at 352-438-2300 at least two (2) days before a meeting.

Agenda items are posted on Marion County's website, <https://www.marionfl.org>, before each board meeting. Click the "Agendas & Videos" link on the homepage to download the agenda packet and back-up documentation.

The Marion County Clerk of Court keeps the official minutes and audio recordings of commission meetings, workshops and public hearings. To request a copy of these materials, contact the Clerk's Office at 352-671-5622. Marion County streams video for most board meetings, workshops and public hearings (when applicable) live online through the county's website. These recordings are archived online after meetings, but DVDs can be requested by contacting Marion County Administration at 352-438-2300.

**CALL TO ORDER**  
**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**  
**12:30 PM ROLL CALL**  
**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**1. COUNTY ATTORNEY:**

- 1.1. [Request Approval of Resolution Declaring a Local State of Emergency](#)

**2. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR:**

- 2.1. [Updates from the James Bowlin, Director of Emergency Management](#)

**3. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Scheduled requests will be heard first and limited to five (5) minutes. Unscheduled speakers will be limited to two (2) minutes. Citizens may contact Marion County Administration by 5:00 p.m. the Friday before the meeting at 352-438-2300 to request to speak or sign up online at: [www.marionfl.org](http://www.marionfl.org) .



# Marion County

## Board of County Commissioners

### Agenda Item

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**File No.:** 2024-16869

**Agenda Date:** 10/6/2024

**Agenda No.:** 1.1.

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**SUBJECT:**

**Request Approval of Resolution Declaring a Local State of Emergency**

**INITIATOR:**

**Matthew G. Minter, Esquire**

**DEPARTMENT:**

**County Attorney**

**DESCRIPTION/BACKGROUND:**

A tropical storm named Tropical Storm Milton is expected to strengthen into a hurricane, bringing the potential for severe weather to Marion County, including intense thunderstorms and strong winds. Advance preparation and planning are critical to an effective county-wide response in the event of severe weather, which justifies the adoption of this declaration of state of local emergency.

**BUDGET/IMPACT:**

None

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Motion to approve and authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute Resolution declaring a state of emergency regarding Tropical Storm Milton.

# STATE OF FLORIDA

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 24-214 (Emergency Management – Tropical Storm Milton)

**WHEREAS**, on October 5, 2024, showers and thunderstorms associated with an area of low pressure located over the southwestern Gulf of Mexico have gradually become better organized, and the storm is now identified as Tropical Storm Milton; and

**WHEREAS**, atmospheric and oceanic conditions are anticipated to support rapid intensification over the Gulf of Mexico, and Tropical Storm Milton is forecast to become a hurricane by early Monday; and

**WHEREAS**, this system could become a major hurricane near or at landfall along the West Florida Coast by the middle of next week; and

**WHEREAS**, there is an increasing risk of life-threatening storm surge and wind impacts for portions of the western Florida Peninsula beginning as soon as later Tuesday and Wednesday; and

**WHEREAS**, areas of heavy rainfall will impact portions of Florida well ahead of the tropical system, impacting Florida Gulf Coast communities still recovering from recent Major Hurricane Helene; and

**WHEREAS**, current computer modeling shows rainfall predictions of four to eight inches across the Florida Peninsula, with locally higher amounts in excess of eight to twelve inches possible; and

**WHEREAS**, much of Florida has recorded above normal rainfall over the past thirty days; North Florida has experienced rainfall totals of six to twelve inches above normal, with portions

of the eastern Florida Panhandle measuring fifteen to twenty inches above normal for this time of year; and

**WHEREAS**, this level of soil saturation will likely lead to a more rapid onset to flash, urban, and riverine flooding through next week; and

**WHEREAS**, heavy rainfall, flooding, and gusty winds will cause power outages due to downed trees and powerlines due to the already vulnerable state of Florida's vegetation and coastal infrastructure; and

**WHEREAS**, the consequences of these impacts could damage the operational capability of critical infrastructure including major interstates and roadways, bridges, airports, schools, hospitals, power grids, in addition to prolonging recovery efforts from Major Hurricane Helene; and

**WHEREAS**, as Governor of Florida, I am responsible to meet the dangers presented to the State of Florida and its people by this emergency.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, RON DESANTIS**, as Governor of Florida, by virtue of the authority vested in me by Article IV, Section 1(a) of the Florida Constitution and by the Florida Emergency Management Act, as amended, and all other applicable laws, promulgate the following Executive Order, to take immediate effect:

Section 1. Because of the foregoing conditions, which are projected to constitute a major disaster, I declare that a state of emergency exists in Brevard, Broward, Charlotte, Citrus, Collier, DeSoto, Flagler, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Hernando, Highlands, Hillsborough, Indian River, Lake, Lee, Manatee, Marion, Martin, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola, Palm Beach, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Putnam, Sarasota, Seminole, St. Johns, St. Lucie, Sumter, and Volusia counties.

Section 2. I designate the Executive Director of the Division of Emergency Management (“Director”) as the State Coordinating Officer for the duration of this emergency and direct him to execute the State’s Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan and other response, recovery, and mitigation plans necessary to cope with the emergency, including any logistical, rescue or evacuation operations. Pursuant to section 252.36(1)(a), Florida Statutes, I delegate to the State Coordinating Officer the authority to exercise those powers delineated in sections 252.36(6)-(12), Florida Statutes, which he shall exercise as needed to meet this emergency, subject to the limitations of section 252.33, Florida Statutes. In exercising the powers delegated by this Executive Order, the State Coordinating Officer shall confer with the Governor to the fullest extent practicable. It is further ordered that the requirements of sections 943.13 and 943.131, Florida Statutes, as they may be applicable to the State Coordinating Officer, shall be waived for the duration of this emergency. The State Coordinating Officer shall not have the authority to suspend or limit the sale, dispensing, or transportation of firearms pursuant to section 252.36(6)(h), Florida Statutes. The State Coordinating Officer shall also have the authority to:

A. Invoke and administer the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (“EMAC”) (sections 252.921-252.9335, Florida Statutes) and other compacts and agreements existing between the State of Florida and other states, and the further authority to coordinate the allocation of resources from such other states that are made available to Florida under such compacts and agreements so as to best meet this emergency.

B. Seek direct assistance and enter into agreements with any and all agencies of the federal government as may be needed to meet this emergency.

C. Direct all state, regional, and local governmental agencies, including law enforcement agencies, to identify personnel needed from those agencies to assist in meeting the response, recovery, and mitigation needs created by this emergency, and to place all such personnel

under the direct command and coordination of the State Coordinating Officer to meet this emergency.

D. Direct the actions of any state agency as necessary to implement the Federal Emergency Management Agency's National Disaster Recovery Framework.

E. Designate Deputy State Coordinating Officers and Deputy State Disaster Recovery Coordinators, as necessary.

F. Suspend the effect of any statute, rule, or order that would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay any mitigation, response, or recovery action necessary to cope with this emergency. In accordance with section 252.3611(1), Florida Statutes, any such order, declaration, or other action shall specify each statute or rule being amended or waived, if applicable, and the expiration date for the order or action.

G. Enter orders as may be needed to implement any of the foregoing powers; however, the requirements of sections 252.46 and 120.54(4), Florida Statutes, do not apply to any such orders issued by the State Coordinating Officer. No such order shall remain in effect beyond the expiration of this Executive Order, including any extension thereof.

H. Direct all state, regional, and local governmental agencies, including law enforcement agencies, to allow Floridians to return to their properties when it is reasonably safe to do so.

Section 3. I order the Adjutant General to activate the Florida National Guard, as needed, to deal with this emergency. I further order the Director of the Florida State Guard to activate the Florida State Guard, as needed, to respond to this emergency.

Section 4. I find that the special duties and responsibilities resting upon some state, regional, and local agencies and other governmental bodies in responding to this emergency may

require them to suspend or waive certain statutes, rules, ordinances, and orders they administer.

Therefore, I issue the following authorizations:

A. Pursuant to section 252.36(6)(a), Florida Statutes, the Executive Office of the Governor may suspend all statutes and rules affecting budgeting to the extent necessary to provide budget authority for state agencies to cope with this emergency. The requirements of sections 252.46 and 120.54(4), Florida Statutes, do not apply to any such suspension issued by the Executive Office of the Governor. No such suspension shall remain in effect beyond the expiration of this Executive Order, including any extension thereof.

B. Each state agency may suspend the provisions of any regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business or the orders or rules of that agency, if strict compliance with the provisions of any such statute, order, or rule would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency. This includes, but is not limited to, the authority to suspend any and all statutes, rules, ordinances, or orders which affect leasing, printing, purchasing, travel, and the condition of employment and the compensation of employees. In accordance with section 252.3611(1), Florida Statutes, any agency order, declaration, or other action suspending a statute or rule shall specify each statute or rule being amended or waived, if applicable, and the expiration date for the order or action. The requirements of sections 252.46 and 120.54(4), Florida Statutes, shall not apply to any such suspension issued by a state agency. No such suspension shall remain in effect beyond the expiration of this Executive Order, including any extension thereof.

C. In accordance with section 252.38(3), Florida Statutes, each political subdivision within the State of Florida may waive the procedures and formalities otherwise required of the political subdivision by law pertaining to:



1) Performance of public work and taking whatever prudent action is necessary to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the community;

2) Following local procurement and contracting policies;

3) Entering into contracts; however, political subdivisions are cautioned against entering into time and materials contracts without a ceiling as defined by 2 CFR 200.318(j) or cost plus a percentage of cost contracts prohibited by 2 CFR 200.324(d);

4) Incurring obligations;

5) Employment of permanent and temporary workers;

6) Utilization of volunteer workers;

7) Rental of equipment;

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8) Acquisition and distribution, with or without compensation, of supplies, materials, and facilities; and

9) Appropriation and expenditure of public funds.

D. All agencies whose employees are certified as disaster service volunteers within the meaning of section 110.120(2)(d), Florida Statutes, may, in accordance with section 110.120(3), Florida Statutes, release any such employees for such service as requested by the employee to meet this emergency.

E. The Secretary of the Florida Department of Transportation (DOT) may:

1) Waive the collection of tolls and other fees and charges for the use of the Turnpike and other public highways, to the extent such waiver may be needed to provide emergency assistance or facilitate the evacuation of the affected counties;

2) Manage the flow of traffic or close any and all roads, highways, and portions of highways as may be needed for the safe and efficient transportation of evacuees to those counties

that the State Coordinating Officer may designate as destination counties for evacuees in this emergency;

3) Suspend enforcement of the registration requirements pursuant to section 316.545(4), Florida Statutes, for commercial motor vehicles that enter Florida to provide emergency services or supplies, to transport emergency equipment, supplies or personnel, or to transport FEMA mobile homes or office style mobile homes into or from Florida;

4) Waive by special permit the warning signal requirements in the Utility Accommodations Manual to accommodate public utility companies from other jurisdictions which render assistance in restoring vital services; and

5) Waive the size and weight restrictions for divisible loads on any vehicles transporting emergency equipment, services, supplies, and agricultural commodities and citrus as recommended by the Commissioner of Agriculture, allowing the establishment of alternate size and weight restrictions for all such vehicles for the duration of the emergency. The DOT shall issue permits and such vehicles shall be subject to such special conditions as the DOT may endorse on any such permits.

Nothing in this Executive Order shall be construed to allow any vehicle to exceed weight limits posted for bridges and like structures, or relieve any vehicle or the carrier, owner, or driver of any vehicle from compliance with any restrictions other than those specified in this Executive Order, or from any statute, rule, order, or other legal requirement not specifically waived or suspended herein or by supplemental order by the State Coordinating Officer.

F. The Executive Director of the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV) may:

1) Suspend enforcement of the registration requirements pursuant to sections 316.545(4) and 320.0715, Florida Statutes, for commercial motor vehicles that enter Florida to

provide emergency services or supplies, to transport emergency equipment, supplies or personnel, or to transport FEMA mobile homes or office style mobile homes into or from Florida;

2) Waive the hours-of-service requirements for such vehicles;

3) Suspend the enforcement of the licensing and registration requirements under the International Fuel Tax Agreement (IFTA) pursuant to chapter 207, Florida Statutes, and the International Registration Plan (IRP) pursuant to section 320.0715, Florida Statutes, for motor carriers or drivers operating commercial motor vehicles that are properly registered in other jurisdictions and that are participating in emergency relief efforts through the transportation of equipment and supplies or providing other assistance in the form of emergency services;

4) Waive fees for duplicate or replacement vessel registration certificates, vessel title certificates, vehicle license plates, vehicle registration certificates, vehicle tag certificates, vehicle title certificates, handicapped parking permits, replacement drivers' licenses, and replacement identification cards and to waive the additional fees for the late renewal of or application for such licenses, certificates, and documents due to the effects of adverse weather conditions; and

5) Defer administrative actions and waive fees imposed by law for the late renewal or application for the above licenses, certificates, and documents, which were delayed due to the effects of adverse weather conditions, including in counties wherein the DHSMV has closed offices, or any office of the County Tax Collector that acts on behalf of the DHSMV to process renewals has closed offices due to adverse weather conditions. Recordkeeping and other applicable requirements for existing IFTA and IRP licensees and registrants are not affected by this Executive Order. The DHSMV shall promptly notify the State Coordinating Officer when the waiver is no longer necessary.

G. In accordance with section 465.0275(2), Florida Statutes, pharmacists may dispense up to a 30-day emergency prescription refill of maintenance medication to persons who reside in an area or county covered under this Executive Order and to emergency personnel who have been activated by their state or local agency but who do not reside in an area or county covered by this Executive Order. In accordance with section 465.019(4)(b), Florida Statutes, a hospital that operates a Class II or Class III institutional pharmacy located in an area or county covered under this Executive Order may prescribe and dispense a supply of medicinal drug lasting up to 72 hours.

H. All state agencies responsible for the use of state buildings and facilities may close such buildings and facilities in those portions of the State affected by this emergency, to the extent necessary to meet this emergency. I direct each state agency to report the closure of any State building or facility to the WebEOC system utilized by the Division of Emergency Management. Under the authority contained in section 252.36, Florida Statutes, I direct each county to report the closure of any building or facility operated or maintained by the county or any political subdivision on a daily basis to the WebEOC system. Furthermore, I direct the Secretary of the Department of Management Services to:

- 1) Maintain an accurate and up-to-date list of all such closures; and
- 2) Provide that list daily to the State Coordinating Officer.

I. All State agencies may abrogate the time requirements, notice requirements, and deadlines for final action on applications for permits, licenses, rates, and other approvals under any statutes or rules under which such application are deemed to be approved unless disapproved in writing by specified deadlines. All such time requirements that have not yet expired as of the date of this Executive Order are suspended and tolled to the extent necessary to meet this emergency.

J. All agencies shall implement Selected Exempt Services (SES) Extraordinary Payment Plans and Career Service Regular Compensatory Leave Payment Plans for:

1) All essential agency personnel who are required to work extraordinary hours when state-owned or state-operated facilities are closed in response to an emergency condition. Employees who are eligible to receive extraordinary pay under the agency's activated plan shall accrue special compensatory leave credits for work performed during facility closures up to the number of hours in the employee's established workday. For these employees, any additional time worked beyond the employee's established workday during facility closures will result in extraordinary pay;

2) All agency personnel who are assigned to the State Emergency Operations Center and are required to work extraordinary hours; and

3) All agency personnel who are deployed throughout the state in response to an emergency condition and are required to work extraordinary hours.

K. All State agencies may waive the forty-day time limit to issue a warrant pursuant to section 215.422(3)(b), Florida Statutes. This waiver applies to invoices and reimbursement requests arising from this emergency that were received, inspected, and approved by the agency prior to the expiration of this Executive Order, including any extension thereof. This waiver of section 215.422(3)(b), Florida Statutes, and all waivers based upon this waiver shall expire upon the expiration of this Executive Order, including any extension thereof.

L. The provisions of section 934.50, Florida Statutes, excluding subsection (4), are waived for state and local agencies conducting emergency operations arising from the state of emergency for the limited purpose of capturing aerial evidence concerning the amount of damage sustained to private and public property; to assist in search, rescue, and recovery activities; and prevent imminent danger to life or serious damage to property.

Section 5. All public facilities, including elementary and secondary schools, community colleges, state universities, and other facilities owned or leased by the state, regional or local governments that are suitable for use as public shelters shall be made available at the request of the local emergency management agencies to ensure the proper reception and care of all evacuees. Under the authority contained in section 252.36, Florida Statutes, I direct the Superintendent of each public-school district in the State of Florida to report the closure of any school within its district to the Commissioner of the Florida Department of Education. Furthermore, I direct the Commissioner of the Department of Education to:

- A. Maintain an accurate and up-to-date list of all such closures; and
- B. Provide that list daily to the State Coordinating Officer.

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Section 6. I find that the demands placed upon funds specifically appropriated to state and local agencies for disaster relief or response are unreasonably great and that such funds may be inadequate to pay the costs of coping with this emergency. In accordance with section 252.37(2), Florida Statutes, I direct that sufficient funds be made available, as needed, by transferring and expending moneys from the Emergency Preparedness and Response Fund.

Section 7. All state agencies entering emergency orders, emergency rules, or other emergency actions in response to this emergency shall advise the State Coordinating Officer contemporaneously or as soon as practicable thereafter, and, pursuant to section 252.36(3)(b), Florida Statutes, shall submit the order or declaration to the Division of Administrative Hearings within five (5) days of issuance.

Section 8. Medical professionals and workers, social workers, and counselors with good and valid professional licenses issued by states other than the State of Florida may render such services in Florida during this emergency for persons affected by this emergency with the condition that such services be rendered to such persons free of charge, and with the further

condition that such services be rendered under the auspices of the American Red Cross or the Florida Department of Health.

Section 9. Pursuant to section 501.160, Florida Statutes, it is unlawful and a violation of section 501.204, Florida Statutes, for a person to rent or sell or offer to rent or sell at an unconscionable price within the area for which the state of emergency is declared, any essential commodity including, but not limited to, supplies, services, provisions, or equipment that is necessary for consumption or use as a direct result of the emergency.

Section 10. Under the authority contained in sections 252.36(6)(a), (g), and (m), Florida Statutes, I direct that, for the purposes of this emergency, the term “essentials”, as defined by section 252.359(2), Florida Statutes, shall be the same as and no more expansive than the term “commodity”, as defined by section 501.160(1)(a), Florida Statutes (hereinafter referred to collectively or alternatively as “essential commodities”). Accordingly, any person who delivers essential commodities to a location in the area(s) declared to be under a state of emergency by this Executive Order, and when necessary to ensure that those commodities are made available to the public, may travel within evacuated areas and exceed curfews, provided the State Coordinating Officer determines, after consultation with the appropriate Emergency Support Function(s), that:

A. Law enforcement officials in the declared area(s) can provide adequate security to protect the essential commodities from theft;

B. The weight of a delivery vehicle will not jeopardize the structural integrity of any roadway or bridge located within the declared area;

C. Delivery vehicles will not negatively impact evacuation activities in the declared area(s); and

D. Delivery vehicles will not negatively impact any response or recovery activities occurring within the declared area(s).

After consulting with the appropriate Emergency Support Function(s), and after consulting with local officials, the State Coordinating Officer may dictate the routes of ingress, egress, and movement within the declared area(s) that drivers must follow when delivering essential commodities.

Provided he or she is actually delivering medications, any person authorized to deliver medications under chapter 893, Florida Statutes, qualifies as a person delivering essential commodities.

In order to qualify as a person delivering essential commodities under this section, a person must be in the process of delivering essential commodities only. If an individual is transporting both essential and non-essential commodities, then this section shall not provide any authorization for that individual to enter into or move within the declared area(s).

Section 11. Consistent with Executive Order 80-29, nothing in this Executive Order shall prevent local jurisdictions in any area not declared to be under a state of emergency by this Executive Order from taking prompt and necessary action to save lives and protect the property of their citizens, including the authority to compel and direct timely evacuation when necessary.

Section 12. I authorize the Florida Housing Finance Corporation to distribute funds pursuant to section 420.9073, Florida Statutes, to any county, municipality, or other political subdivision located within the area(s) declared to be under a state of emergency by this Executive Order. The authority of the Florida Housing Finance Corporation to distribute funds in connection with this emergency shall expire six months after the expiration of this Executive Order, including any extension thereof.

Section 13. Pursuant to sections 252.36(6)(b) and 252.35(2)(z), Florida Statutes, it is further ordered that all Disaster Debris Management Sites and landfills in all counties impacted by Hurricane Helene shall remain open and allow twenty-four-hour debris drop off.



Section 14. All actions taken by the Director of the Division of Emergency Management with respect to this emergency before the issuance of this Executive Order are ratified.

Section 15. This Executive Order is effective immediately and shall expire sixty (60) days from this date unless extended.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed, at Tallahassee, this 5th day of October, 2024.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
RON DESANTIS, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SECRETARY OF STATE

2024 OCT -5 PM 4: 28  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
TALLAHASSEE, FL

FILED

## **RESOLUTION NO. 2024-\_\_\_**

### **Declaration of State of Local Emergency**

**WHEREAS**, on October 5, 2024, showers and thunderstorms associated with an area of low pressure located over the southwestern Gulf of Mexico has gradually become better organized, and the storm is now identified as Tropical Storm Milton. This storm system has the potential to produce severe weather in Marion County, including severe thunderstorms and strong wind gusts, possible tornados and potential flooding due to multi-day heavy rain events. As such, there currently exists a threat to the health, safety, and well-being to the citizens of Marion County, and the concomitant need to prepare for such threat; and

**WHEREAS**, Governor Ron Desantis on October 5, 2024, issued Executive Order Number 24-214 related to this storm system. Section 1 of the Executive Order declares that a state of emergency exists in multiple Florida counties, including Marion County. A copy of this Executive Order is attached hereto as Exhibit A, and is incorporated herein by reference; and

**WHEREAS**, it is incumbent upon Marion County, Florida, a political subdivision of the State of Florida, to take every prudent measure to ensure the safety and well-being of its citizens and their property located in Marion County; and

**WHEREAS**, Marion County has enacted an Emergency Management Plan pursuant to Florida Statutes, and in support of such plan, it is necessary that the departments, agencies, and services of Marion County make continuous effective responses by continuing their emergency responsibilities for management of several conditions of possible disaster and to promote rapid recovery from the effects thereof; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of County Commissioners convened a duly noticed emergency public meeting in the Board of County Commissioners' chambers on October 6, 2024, for consideration of this Resolution; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the powers vested in the Board of County Commissioners by Chapter 252, Florida Statutes,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY** the Board of County Commissioners of Marion County as follows:

**SECTION 1.** A state of local emergency is hereby declared immediately, today, October 6, 2024, due to the likelihood that heavy rains and winds may result in extreme localized flooding, wind damage and possible tornadic activity in unincorporated Marion County.

**SECTION 2.** This State of Local Emergency is declared for a period of seven (7) days from the date of this Resolution and may be altered or rescinded during the continued or threatened existence of the local emergency by the issuance of subsequent directives or orders of the Chairman of the Board after consultation with the Marion County Director of Emergency Management.

**SECTION 3.** During this State of Local Emergency, Marion County may implement any and all emergency powers and restrictions enumerated herein and in its Emergency Plan which emergency powers and restrictions are incorporated, but not limited to herein by reference and made a part hereof, to wit:

- (a) Prohibit or regulate the purchase, sale, transfer, or possession of explosives, combustibles, or alcoholic beverages.
- (b) Prohibit or regulate any demonstration, parade, march, vigil, or participation therein from taking place on any public right-of-way or upon any public property.
- (c) Prohibit or regulate any sale or use of gasoline, kerosene, naphtha or any other explosive or flammable fluids or substances, but may allow the delivery of such into a tank properly affixed to an operable motor vehicle, bike, scooter, boat, or airplane and necessary for the propulsion thereof.
- (d) Prohibit or regulate the possession of any portable container containing gasoline or other flammable or combustible liquid.
- (e) Prohibit or regulate the participation in or carrying on of any business activity, and the keeping open of places of business, places of entertainment, and any other place of public assembly when such activities may negatively impact public health, safety and welfare.
- (f) Prohibit or regulate travel upon any public street or highway or upon any other public property. Persons in search of medical assistance, food, or other commodity or service necessary to sustain the wellbeing of

themselves or their families may be exempted from such prohibition or regulation.

- (g) A curfew upon any or all portions of the unincorporated county prohibiting persons from being on public streets, highways, parks, or other public places during the hours the curfew is in effect.
- (h) Prohibit state and/or local business licensees, vendors, merchants, and any other person operating a retail business from charging more than the normal average retail price prevailing in Marion County, Florida, for any goods, materials, or services sold during a declared state of local emergency. The “average retail price,” as used herein, is defined as that price at which similar goods, materials or services were being sold during the ninety (90) days *immediately preceding* the declared state of local emergency. If the *wholesale* price or the cost of obtaining the goods, materials, or services has increased as a direct result of the local emergency, the average *retail* price may be increased, but only to the degree that the maximum increase in *retail* price shall be *less than or equal to* the amount representative of the *average mark-up* between the *wholesale* and average *retail* price for any goods, materials or services during the ninety (90) day period immediately preceding the declared state of local emergency.
- (i) Prohibit any person, firm, or corporation from using the fresh water supplied by public water systems for any purpose *other than* cooking, drinking or bathing.

**SECTION 4.** By appropriate resolution, decree, directive, or other lawful order, the County, acting through its officers, employees, and agents, and through the Department of Emergency Management and the Sheriff’s Office of Marion County, may take any other necessary actions required to cope with the conditions related hereunder, stated herein but not limited to, to wit:

- (a) Allow additional flexibility in moving forward with debris removal and other emergency protective measures such as water notices, pre-emptive pumping of drainage retention areas, and warn and react to potential for significant flooding.
- (b) Respond to significant power outages countywide.
- (c) Open, and direct the opening of shelters including public school facilities, as needed.

- (d) Provide for limited clearing of private roads where necessary to allow access by emergency vehicles.
- (e) Assist other local governments as needed.
- (f) Address lack of fire protection flows and current potable water shortages or problems.

**SECTION 5.** All departments and agencies of Marion County shall perform emergency functions as designated in the adopted Marion County Emergency Management Plan and shall make available other resources of such departments and agencies as necessary to effectuate this Resolution.

**SECTION 6.** This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

**PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED** this 6<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2024.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
MICHELLE STONE, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
GREGORY C. HARRELL  
CLERK OF COURT

Approved as to Form:

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
MATTHEW G. MINTER  
COUNTY ATTORNEY



# Marion County

## Board of County Commissioners

### Agenda Item

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**File No.:** 2024-16870

**Agenda Date:** 10/6/2024

**Agenda No.:** 2.1.

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**SUBJECT:**

**Updates from the James Bowlin, Director of Emergency Management**

**INITIATOR:**

**Mounir Bouyounes,  
County Administrator**

**DEPARTMENT:**

**Administration**

**DESCRIPTION/BACKGROUND:**

Staff will provide updates on various procedures for readiness and preparations for the days leading up to the storm and plans for after the storm.

**BUDGET/IMPACT:**

None

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

For information and Board Discussion