BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR TILLAMOOK COUNTY, OREGON

In the Matter of Declaring a Local State of Emergency within Tillamook County

ORDER #23-

This matter came before the Tillamook County Board of Commissioners on September 20, 2023, at the request of Randy Thorpe, Tillamook County Emergency management Director. The Board of Commissioners being fully apprised of the above-named person, the records and files herein, finds as follows:

1. The Tillamook County resource base (including but not limited to, forestry, agricultural, fisheries, industries, and tourism) and related economy are suffering widespread and severe economic damage, potential injuries and loss of property resulting from extreme weather conditions within the county.

2. Annual water supplies available for farm, forest, recreation, and natural uses as well as municipal water supplies within the county are a function of available water in the county watersheds and in various tributaries. Water supplies are in serious jeopardy this year.

3. As of September 1, 2023, 59% of the county is in moderate drought and 41% is in severe drought.

4. The Board of Commissioners determines that extraordinary measures must be taken to alleviate suffering of people, natural resources and to protect or mitigate economic loss, begin water conservation and curtailment plans and actions, and to be responsive to the threat of wildfires. Pursuant to ORS 401.032(2), the appropriate response is beyond the capability of Tillamook County.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

5. Under the emergency powers granted by ORS 401.305, the Tillamook County Board of Commissioners declares that a local State of Emergency exists within Tillamook County effective immediately.

6. The Board of Commissioners requests The Honorable Tina Kotek, Governor of Oregon:

   a. declare a Drought Emergency for all of Tillamook County under the provisions of ORS 401.165 due to severe and continuing drought conditions beginning at this time and continuing for an unknown period of time; and

   b. direct the Oregon Department of Water Resources to make available in Tillamook County appropriate and available tools and resources to alleviate drought conditions and impacts and to provide other federal and state drought assistance and programs as needed.
DATED this 20th day of September, 2023.

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FOR TILLAMOOK COUNTY, OREGON

Erin D. Skaa, Chair

Mary Faith Bell, Vice-Chair

David Yamamoto, Commissioner

ATTEST: Christy Biggs
County Clerk

By: Laura Holdahl
Special Deputy

Aye   Nay Abstain/Absent

[Signature]

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

William K. Sargent, County Counsel