



EMERGENCY ORDER 2022-02

EXTENDING A STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY DUE TO SEVERE RAIN AND FLASH FLOODING

WHEREAS, on August 20, 2022, severe rainstorms occurred in the La Sal Mountains, Grand County, and in the City of Moab, Utah;

WHEREAS, on August 21, 2022, the Grand County Commission Chair declared a state of emergency for 30 days;

WHEREAS, early reports indicate that these rainstorms created a 100-year flood event that caused flash flooding through the Pack Creek and Mill Creek drainages with massive quantities of debris, mud, and water;

WHEREAS, debris and flooding created impassable conditions on many roadways while also damaging, homes, private property, public roads, walk paths, public use areas, and infrastructure throughout the City of Moab and Grand County;

WHEREAS, homeowners, public officials, and public works crews have taken measures to mitigate and prevent further damage by procuring and distributing sandbags, closing roads, and surveying affected areas to enact other emergency preventative measures;

WHEREAS, these conditions have the potential to worsen, and immediate attention is needed to ensure the safety, health, and welfare of the citizens of the City of Moab and Grand County;

WHEREAS, Utah Code § 53-2a-205 authorizes the Chief Executive Officer to declare a local emergency, which Utah Code § 53-2a-203(5) defines as “a condition in any municipality or County... which requires that emergency assistance be provided by the affected municipality or County...to save lives and protect property within its jurisdiction in response to a disaster, or to avoid or reduce the threat of a disaster;” and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid rainstorms and flooding in the City of Moab and Grand County constitute a “State of Local Emergency” within the intent of the Disaster Response and Recovery Act found in Title 53, Chapter 2a of the Utah Code Annotated 1953, as amended, and therefore necessitate that the Chair of the Grand County Commission proclaim the existence of a local emergency.

WHEREAS, Utah Code § 53-2a-208 (6)(b)(ii) states “The legislative body of a municipality or county may by majority vote extend a state of emergency for a time period stated in the motion”.

NOW, THEREFORE it is declared that:

1. Nature of the Local Emergency: A local emergency exists for Grand County, Utah due to the flooding and related impacts that resulted from the storm event on August 20, 2022, the impacts of which threaten and affect the entire City of Moab and outlying unincorporated areas.

2. Emergency Powers and Operations: Grand County’s emergency powers and operations are hereby invoked and County personnel and resources are ordered and authorized to perform all functions authorized by federal, state, and local law to address this local emergency, including but not limited to those actions authorized under Utah Code § 53-2a-205.

3. Assistance: Grand County is authorized to request all assistance available with respect to this local emergency from all federal, state, and local sources, and is authorized to participate in or enter into any mutual aid agreements.

4. Term: This declaration is effective immediately and will remain in effect until February 1, 2023 unless terminated or extended pursuant to Utah Code § 53-2a-208.

5. Dissemination: This declaration will be: (a) filed with the Clerk of Grand County pursuant to Utah Code § 53-2a-209; (b) posted to Grand County’s website, the Utah Public Notice website, and applicable County social media accounts as determined by the Commission Administrator, and (c) delivered to the City of Moab and the State of Utah.

PASSED by the Grand County Commission in open session this 4th day of October, 2022 by the following vote:

Those voting aye: _____
Those voting nay: _____
Those absent: _____

Jacques Hadler, Commission Chair – Grand County

ATTEST:

Gabriel Woytek, Clerk/Auditor – Grand County