

**LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY DECLARATION  
FOR WILLIAMS COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA  
SEVERE WINTER WEATHER**



May 3, 2022

**WHEREAS**, Williams County, North Dakota has experienced extra-ordinary severe winter weather recently, including record snow falls and prolonged sustained high winds with gusts up to 60 m.p.h.;

**WHEREAS**, this severe winter weather has caused wide-spread power outages, tremendous damage to electric infrastructure, road closures, rural road blockages, travel hazards throughout Williams County, as well as impairment of County property necessary for the conduct of the affairs of the County;

**WHEREAS**, the Williams County Highway Department, along with public works departments for the cities within Williams County, have expended inordinate efforts, including incurring additional over-time for 24/7 operations and shift work, to keep public roads throughout Williams County open and safe for travel, however, such efforts were impeded by the prolonged periods of heavy snowfall, blowing snow, and extreme wind;

**WHEREAS**, the severe winter weather in Williams County has caused significant consequences to agricultural resources within Williams County, including stressed livestock and the loss of livestock due to death due to prolonged exposure to the severe winter weather;

**WHEREAS**, the impact and continued conditions related to the severe winter weather, along with the prolonged clean-up and recovery from this severe winter weather, has threatened and may continue to threaten the lives, health, well-being safety, and welfare of the residents of Williams County, and the impairment of County;

**WHEREAS**, all available resources of Williams County remain committed to protecting the lives, health, well-being safety, and welfare of the residents of Williams County;

**WHEREAS**, N.D.C.C. Chapter 37-17.1 authorizes counties to declare a local state of emergency and for state and local jurisdictions to work cooperatively to address emergency situations; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 25, 2022, the Chairman of the Williams County Board of County Commissioners, under the authority of N.D.C.C. § 37-17.1-10(a), declared a local state of emergency within Williams County due to the severe winter weather to be effective for a period of seven days, and the Williams County Board of County Commissioners intend to continue that declaration.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Williams County Board of County Commissioners, by a majority roll call vote and pursuant to its authority under N.D.C.C. Chapter 37-17.1, hereby continues the declaration of a local state of emergency due to the severe winter weather to be effective in and throughout Williams County, including, to the extent permitted by law, all incorporated cities and other political subdivisions within Williams County, until further notice; and hereby further authorizes expenditures out of the Williams County emergency fund pursuant to N.D.C.C. § 57-15-28 or any other available source for, or in response to, the emergency resulting from the severe winter weather.

DATED this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2022.

  
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Cory Hanson, Chairman  
Williams County Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST:

  
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Beth M. Innis, Williams County Auditor

**WILLIAMS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

First District – Beau Anderson | Second District – Steve Kemp | Third District – Cory Hanson  
Fourth District – David Montgomery | Fifth District – Barry Ramberg

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