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**PROCLAMATION OF A
STATE OF EMERGENCY**

The following Proclamation is issued by the Chairman of the Haywood County Board of Commissioners:

WHEREAS, information from the National Weather Service and other sources have predicted that the current weather patterns in western North Carolina along with Hurricane Helene are likely to cause moderate to heavy impact to the region and a Flash Flood Watch has been issued for our area on September 25th, 2024; and

WHEREAS, said weather system has been forecasted to produce heavy rainfall where accumulation of such severity as to cause the potential for widespread landslides and flooding, leading to power outages, damage to infrastructure and unsafe road conditions; and that such conditions are forecasted to exist in Haywood County; and

WHEREAS, the weather conditions associated with flash flooding constitutes an imminent threat of injury and/or loss of life and/or property; and

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority contained in Article IA of N.C.G.S. § Chapter 166A, Article 36A of N.C.G.S. § Chapter 14, and Chapter 31 of the Haywood County Code of Ordinances, I, Chairman L. Kevin Ensley of the Haywood County Board of Commissioners, does hereby proclaim that a State of Emergency exists within Haywood County.

I further proclaim that the directions set forth below, which are authorized by Chapter 31 of the Haywood County Code of Ordinances, are necessary in order to maintain an acceptable level of public order, services, and protection of lives, safety and property during this emergency, and that the same shall be in effect within Haywood County until this Proclamation expires or is rescinded by the Haywood County Board of Commissioners.

I further proclaim by and with the consent of the mayors of the municipalities within Haywood County, that a local state of emergency applies within the municipal limits of the Town of Waynesville, the Town of Clyde, the Town of Canton and the Town of Maggie Valley.

I hereby order all county employees and all other emergency management personnel subject to the authority granted to me as the Chairman of the Haywood County Board of Commissioners to cooperate in the enforcement and implementation of the emergency ordinances set forth below.

A. Access to Restricted Areas. (Chapter 31 §31.07)

- I. The Director of Emergency Management and any staff may restrict or deny access to any area, location, or street where such a restriction is necessary in order to help overcome this emergency or to prevent the emergency from worsening. These restrictions on access shall be indicated by means of barricades, posted notices, and/or orders to anyone in the area.
- II. No person shall obtain access or attempt to obtain access to any area, location, or street to which Emergency Management has restricted access according to the above directive.

B. Sheltering. (Chapter 31 §31.05)

I have determined that, in the best interest of public safety and protection, it is necessary to activate temporary shelters. These locations shall be activated as needed and duly advertised to impacted areas as soon as possible.

C. Voluntary Evacuations (Chapter 31 §31.08)

In the interest of public safety and protection, I have determined that it is necessary to issue a Voluntary Evacuation for the affected areas prone to flooding and areas that become inaccessible during high water events. This includes areas near the Pigeon River and its tributaries, Richland Creek, and Jonathan Creek.

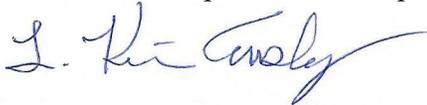
D. Debris Removal and Infrastructure. (Chapter 31 §31.05)

County employees shall cooperate with NC DOT and other debris removal/infrastructure entities to ensure the safe and efficient restoration of essential services, such as, but not limited to power, water, roadway access and medical supplies as needed.

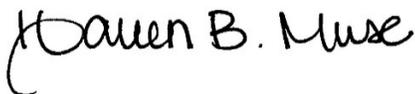
I further proclaim that the Emergency Management Plan adopted by Haywood County, and all applicable mutual assistance compacts and agreements are in effect and shall remain in effect until this proclamation expires or is rescinded by the Haywood County Board of Commissioners. All Emergency Management personnel and county employees are hereby ordered to cooperate in the implementation of the provisions of the Haywood County's Emergency Operations Plan and all applicable mutual assistance compacts and agreements, and to furnish assistance thereunder.

I direct that copies of this Proclamation be disseminated to municipalities and mass communications media for publication and broadcast, and that a copy of this Proclamation be posted in the County Manager's Office, on the Haywood County website and other public buildings as appropriate.

This Proclamation shall be effective as of 5 p.m. on Wednesday September 25, 2024, and shall remain in effect unless rescinded pursuant to Chapter 31 of the Haywood County Code of Ordinances.



L. Kevin Ensley, Chairman
Haywood County Board of Commissioners



Haven B. Muse, Deputy Clerk to the Board
Haywood County Board of Commissioners



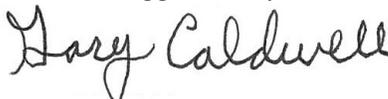
Jim Trantham, Mayor
Town of Clyde



Mike Eveland, Mayor
Town of Maggie Valley



Zeb Smathers, Mayor
Town of Canton



Gary Caldwell, Mayor
Town of Waynesville