

EMERGENCY SESSION OF THE MOWER COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

April 12, 2019

The Mower County Board of Commissioners in and for the County of Mower, Minnesota, met in Emergency Session April 12, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. at the Government Center in Austin, Minnesota.

Members present, viz: Mike Ankeny, Chair
 Jeff Baldus
 Tim Gabrielson
 Jerry Reinartz
 Trish Harren, County Administrator

Members absent: Polly Glynn

Also present: Amy Lammey, Emergency Management Coordinator, Sheriff Steve Sandvik, and Sergeant First Class Jeff Dahlen of the National Guard.

Commissioner Ankeny called the meeting to order. A State of Emergency needs to be declared.

Date: April 12, 2019

Res. #38-19

**RESOLUTION
DECLARING A LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY**

On motion of Commissioner Gabrielson, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held April 12, 2019 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

WHEREAS the April 2019 wind, snow and ice storm impacted the population of Mower County and its cities; and

WHEREAS the storm event has caused a significant amount of public property damage including power outages and road closures; and

WHEREAS the Mower County Department of Emergency Management requests the Mower County Board of Commissioners to declare Mower County in a STATE OF EMERGENCY for the wind, snow and ice event of April 2019;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mower County Board of Commissioners declares Mower County in a State of Emergency for conditions resulting from the wind, snow and ice event of April 2019.

Passed and approved this 12th day of April, 2019.

Sheriff Steve Sandvik provided the Board with a storm update. Freeborn Mower Cooperative Services had indicated that the storm impact resulted in approximately 8000 accounts without power and it was reported earlier today that there were still 7500 accounts without power. The downed power lines had blocked roads and with the help of Public Works erecting blockades and using squads to close roads to the public there weren't enough resources to barricade all affected roadways. In addition, the winds were blowing the barricades off the roads. With the help of the National Guard the resources became available to control traffic from the affected areas to keep the public safe from the downed power lines and to also assist the power crews to safely access the areas for repair. It is anticipated that some rural areas will be without power until April 16. The Waltham area was hardest hit and the entire City of Lyle is without power.

Amy Lammey, Emergency Management Coordinator, provided the Board with information pertaining to the shelter options provided for those affected by the storm in cooperation with Freeborn County and also the City of Lyle's City Hall. To her knowledge, the shelters were not used. People were sheltering with family and friends and obtaining generators. Ms. Lammey informed the Board that the Governor will be arriving in Austin on Saturday morning to review the damage.

Sergeant First Class Jeff Dahlen of the National Guard indicated that the SE Minnesota unit is disbursed in the area and when activated arrive to the affected area. There are approximately 224 guards in the area of which about 100 are within a short distance of Austin. Once activated there was a good force available to assist Sheriff Sandvik by 7:00 p.m. on April 11 and at full strength of manpower by noon today, April 12. The National Guard is a self-sufficient manpower resource that was glad to be able to come and assist the Sheriff and the citizens of the county.

All present expressed their deep appreciation for the assistance of the National Guard.

Motion made by Commissioner Gabrielson, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to adjourn the meeting at 1:26 p.m. Motion carried.

THE MOWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BY: _____
Chairperson

Attest:
By: _____
Clerk/Administrator

INDEX

A

adjourn, 83

R

Res. #38-19 Declaring a Local State of Emergency, 82