

RESOLUTION 2021 - 20

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA CONFIRMING THE PROCLAMATION OF A LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY RESULTING FROM THE EFFECTS OF TROPICAL STORM ELSA IN BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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WHEREAS, on March 5, 2011, the Board of County Commissioners of Bradford County, Florida adopted Ordinance 2001-05; later codified as Chapter 26 of the *Bradford County Code of Ordinances* (hereinafter referred to as the *Code*) invoking the powers provided for in Chapter 252, *Florida Statutes*; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 26-8(a) of the *Code*, the Board of County Commissioners of Bradford County, Florida granted authority to the Emergency Management Director to declare, by proclamation, a state of local emergency from time to time when it is determined that conditions exist giving rise to such a declaration, and;

WHEREAS, according to Section 252.38(3)(a)(5), *Florida Statutes*, the duration of each state of emergency declared locally is limited to seven days and may be extended, as necessary, in seven-day increments; and

WHEREAS, on or about July 3, 2021, a tropical cyclone identified by the United States National Hurricane Center as Tropical Storm Elsa, was located approximately 110 miles southeast of Isa Beata, Dominican Republic and had maximum sustained winds of 70 miles per hour; and

WHEREAS, on or about July 3, 2021, forecasts for Tropical Storm Elsa indicated that the storm was likely to strengthen once in the Gulf of Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the United States National Weather Service predicted that Tropical Storm Elsa would affect Bradford County, Florida by producing increased rainfall and significant winds; and

WHEREAS, there was a risk of severe weather for Bradford County and Bradford County is susceptible to flooding and downed trees due to higher than normal rainfall events; and

WHEREAS, on or about July 3, 2021, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis issued *Executive Order 21-150*, declaring a state of emergency in select, Florida counties in response to the threat posed by Tropical Storm Elsa; and

WHEREAS, on or about July 5, 2021, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis issued *Executive Order 21-151* which extended *Executive Order 21-150*; declaring a state of emergency in additional Florida counties, by adding Florida Big Bend, in response to the threat posed by Tropical Storm Elsa; and

WHEREAS, on or about July 6, 2021, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis issued *Executive Order 21-152* which extended *Executive Order 21-150*; declaring a state of emergency in additional Florida counties, including Bradford County, Florida, in response to the threat posed by Tropical Storm Elsa; and

WHEREAS, on or about July 4, 2021, a review of all relevant factors, including the information outlined above and herein, indicated that the effects of Tropical Storm Elsa posed a significant threat to the State of Florida and specifically to Bradford County, Florida; and

WHEREAS, said threat posed by Tropical Storm Elsa represented a direct threat to the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Bradford County, Florida and represented a bona fide, active emergency; and

WHEREAS, on or about July 4, 2021 and given the foregoing, Bradford County Emergency Management Director, Lieutenant Bradley G. Witt, issued a proclamation declaring a state of local emergency in Bradford County, Florida with regard to the threat of and impacts associated with Tropical Storm Eta; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Bradford County, Florida finds that said proclamation declaring a local state of emergency with regard to the threat of and impacts associated