COMMISSIONERS

Brian P. Baird Kevin M. Walls Ronald H. West

County Attorney Adam P. Gadberry Assistant County Attorney Tiffany M. Costley



ADDRESS

86 West Court Street Franklin, Indiana 46131

Phone (317) 346-4300 Fax (317) 736-8066 Website: www.co.johnson.in.us

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS JOHNSON COUNTY

LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY DECLARATION DECLARING A LOCAL EMERGENCY DISASTER AND TRAVEL ADVISORIES IN RESPONSE TO THE JUNE 25, 2023 TORNADOES

WHEREAS, On June 25, 2023, Johnson County experienced damaging high winds and multiple tornadoes affecting a large portion of Johnson County residents causing wide spread and substantial damage and power loss throughout Johnson County;

WHEREAS, The Johnson County Board of Commissioners ("Board"), acting through its principle executive officer, declare that a local disaster emergency exists in the County;

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Ordinance to protect the health and wellbeing of our citizens, to keep residents informed of significant weather related county road conditions, to facilitate the passage of essential emergency vehicles on county roads and highways in times of weather emergencies by minimizing the number of stalled and abandoned vehicles, to assist the county highway department in clearing the county roadways by eliminating stranded vehicles and to amend the existing ordinance in view of the enactment of IC 10-14-3-29.5; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to IC § 10-14-3-29.5 and Johnson County Code of Ordinances §10-3-3-6(A)(12) the principle executive officer of the Johnson County Board of Commissioners is authorized to establish a curfew in Unincorporated Johnson County, specifically to public streets and public places within the affected public roads listed below in section twelve (12) and displayed on the attached map incorporated hereto as **Exhibit A**; and

WHEREAS, Ind. Code § 22-11-14-10.5 provides that a local municipality may adopt an ordinance concerning the use of consumer fireworks within its corporate limits subject to certain date and hour limitations expressly provided for in state statute; and

WHEREAS, under IC 10-14-3-29, it is the duty of the principal executive officer of each Indiana political subdivision to determine when it shall become necessary to declare a local disaster emergency for said political subdivision to active the response and recovery aspects of all applicable disaster emergency plans, to authorize the furnishing of aid and assistance under such plans and to issue any necessary local travel advisories in accordance with IC 10-14-3-29.5.

BE IT THEREFORE ORDAINED BY THE BOARD THAT:

- 1. A local disaster emergency exists in the County and that I hereby invoke and declare those portions of the Indiana Code which are applicable to the conditions and have caused the issuance of this proclamation, to be in full force and effect in the County for the exercise of all necessary emergency authority for protection of the lives and property of the people of Johnson County and the restoration of local government with a minimum of interruption.
- 2. Based on the extent of the damage to the affected unincorporated areas, more specifically enumerated in the public streets and public places listed below in section twelve (12), and the continuing concern for safety due to hazardous road conditions, the Johnson County Board of Commissioners Principal Executive now declares an "advisory-level" nighttime local travel restriction and mandatory nighttime curfew (collectively, the "Curfew") applying to public streets of the affected unincorporated areas in section twelve (12) effective at 9:00 p.m. through 6:00 a.m. each day beginning on Monday, June 26, 2023 at 9:00 p.m. and continuing to Monday, July 3, 2023 at 6:00 a.m.
- 3. During the Curfew, no person may travel on public streets or in public places within the affected unincorporated areas more specifically enumerated in section twelve (12), unless subject to an exemption under Section five (5) of this Emergency Disaster Declaration.
 - a. The Curfew applies regardless of the method of travel on public streets or in public places, whether by automobile, motorcycle, bus. Bicycle, scooter, foot, or other means of moving from place to place.
 - b. For the purpose of this Emergency Disaster Declaration, "public streets" and "public places" means any place, whether on privately or publicly owned property, accessible to the general public. This includes, but is not limited to, streets and roads, alleys, highways, driveways, sidewalks, parks, plazas, parking lots, and vacant lots.
- 4. The following individuals are exempt from the Curfew:
 - a. All law-enforcement, fire, and medical personnel;
 - b. Members of the news media;
 - c. Federal, state, or local public officials doing work deemed necessary by the public agency that employs them;
 - d. Individuals traveling directly to or directly from work, seeking medical care, or fleeing from dangerous circumstances;
 - e. Individuals engages in employment necessary to maintain a safe rail system. Restore utility service, or provide other emergency public services;
 - f. Individuals experiencing homelessness.

- 5. During the curfew, residents within the affected areas enumerated in section twelve (12) are prohibited from the use of fireworks until July 3, 2023 or until such time that the emergency declaration has been lifted.
- 6. Under IC § 10-14-3-24 and IC § 10-14-3-34, violation of this Curfew order is a class B misdemeanor punishable up to 180 days in jail and a \$1,000 fine.
- 7. Reference is hereby made to all appropriate law, statutes, ordinances and resolutions, and particularly to IC §§10-14-3-29 and 10-14-3-29.5.
- 8. All public offices and employees of Johnson County are hereby directed to exercise the utmost diligence in the discharge of duties required of them for the duration and the emergency and in execution of emergency laws, regulations, and directives both state and local.
- 9. All citizens are called upon and directed to comply with necessary emergency measures, to cooperate with public officials and disaster services forces in executing emergency operations plans, and to obey and comply with the lawful directions of properly identified officers.
- 10. All operating forces will direct their communication and requests for assistance and operations directly to the Emergency Operations Center.
- 11. Pursuant to IC §10-14-3-29.5, I declare a local travel advisory, as follows:
 - __X__ "Advisory"

This level may be declared when routine travel or activities may be restricted in areas of the county because of a hazardous situation; citizens should use caution or avoid these areas.

- 12. Further and more specific restrictions upon travel and parking to be placed in effect are as follows:
 - 1. Stones Crossing Road from Mullinex Road/600W to State Road 135
 - 2. Mullinex Road/600W from Stones Crossing Road to Smokey Row Road.
 - 3. Morgantown Road from Smokey Row Road to Whiteland Road/500N.
 - 4. Whiteland Road/500N from Morgantown Road to 400W/Saddle Club Road
 - 5. Saddle Club Road from Whiteland Road/500N to Smokey Row Road.
 - 6. Smokey Row Road from Mullinex Road/600N to State Road 135.
- 13. This Emergency Disaster Declaration may be renewed by the Johnson County Board of Commissioners and will be filed with the clerk of Johnson County according to IC § 10-14-3-29.

In witness, whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this June 26, 2023

Brian P. Baird, Chairman

Attest:

Elizabeth A. Alvey, Johnson County Auditor

