**Resolution No. 42-2020**

**A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE CITY OF UMATILLA, OREGON**

**TO BE IN A STATE OF EMERGENCY**

**WHEREAS**, this matter comes before the City Council at an emergency meeting on February 8, 2020, via email, involving a disaster situation created by flooding conditions occurring along the Umatilla River throughout Umatilla County and, more specifically, inside the city limits of the City of Umatilla beginning February 6, 2020 and still existing at time of this Resolution and expected to continue for several weeks hereafter; and

**WHEREAS,** Oregon Governor Kate Brown declared a State of Emergency in Umatilla and other counties due to severe flooding on February 7, 2020; and

**WHEREAS,** major flooding has resulted due to the combination of melting snow caused by unseasonably warm recent weather resulting in rapid snow thaw and because of continual rains with few breaks between 2/1/20 through today and significant rains still expected over the next several weeks; and

**WHEREAS,** continual snowmelt and rains are still anticipated to occur over the next several weeks for Umatilla County and is still in effect as of this Resolution; and

**WHEREAS,** there is a present emergency which necessitates utilization of emergency powers granted pursuant to ORS 401.165 and 401.309; and

**WHEREAS,** the Umatilla River Pedestrian Bridge, located in the area commonly known as South Hill, that connects South Hill to the Downtown, Clara Brownell Middle School, and Umatilla High School has suffered new severe damage, in addition to the severe damage caused by the April 2019 flood, with the assessment that the remaining features of the bridge after the April 2019 flood are now a complete and total loss;

**WHEREAS,** other public and private facilities along the Umatilla River, including, but not limited to the Umatilla School District’s high school sports arena that includes the football field, track, open areas, bleachers, etc., City improved trails, City fishing pier, and park areas have likely sustained significant damage and loss; and

**WHEREAS,** the loss of such public amenities, transportation systems, recreational assets, and educational facilities severely negatively impacts the transportation needs and public health of the City and demonstrates an immediate and hazardous threat to human life and overall community safety; and

**WHEREAS,** the damages along the Umatilla River demonstrates an immediate and potentially hazardous threat to riparian life and habitats; and

**WHEREAS,** by declaring this a local emergency, the City of Umatilla having exhausted their resources, is requesting assistance from Umatilla County through their Emergency Management program; the Oregon Office of Emergency Management; the State of Oregon, through the Federal Emergency Management Agency; and through any other local, state, or federal agency that may be able to provide assistance; and

**WHEREAS,** the emergency appears to be of such a magnitude of severity, with potential of continued flooding for the next several weeks, that it is beyond the City’s sole response capability;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF UMATILLA, OREGON AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1:** That under the emergency powers granted by ORS 401.305, ORS 401.309, ORS 401.165, and ORS 401.309, declare that a “State of Emergency” exists within Umatilla, Oregon due to the fact that current severe flooding of the Umatilla River demonstrates an immediate and hazardous threat to human life, the environment, and because considerable local resources are being depleted and are insufficient. Further, the Umatilla County Emergency Management team and the City of Umatilla Police Department are hereby requested and directed to take all necessary steps authorized by law to secure the persons and property of the residents of Umatilla, Oregon

**Section 2:** Umatilla County, State of Oregon, or Federal Emergency Management Agency assistance

is requested and includes, but is not limited to:

* Reimbursement of City’s Public Works personnel and equipment to assist with flooding safety management, which may include, but is not limited to:
  + Removal of debris from City streets and local highways open to traffic, and
  + Removal of debris from the Umatilla River, and
  + Removal of debris from any public facility, and
  + Removal of rubble from bridge damage or other damaged public or private structures associated with these floods,
* Reimbursement of the City’s Administrative staff time in association with this emergency,
* Reimbursement of the City’s Police Department to protect the health and safety of persons and property associated with this emergency,
* Reimbursement of other public staff, including but not limited to Umatilla School District and other public emergency or operational agencies,
* Use of Umatilla County’s Public Works Department’s personnel and equipment,
* Costs associated with the assistance with relocation, care, and shelter of people,
* Replacement of all damaged publicly owned structures or facilities as identified as water recedes along the Umatilla River.

**Section 3:** Adopted by the City Council of the City of Umatilla, Oregon, and **APPROVED** by its Mayor at an Emergency Meeting, via email, thereof this 8th Day of February 2020. In the likelihood that a quorum of the Council is not available at the time of the declaration, the Mayor or her designee shall have approving powers.

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Mary Dedrick, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Nanci Sandoval, City Recorder