



IN THE COUNTY COURT FOR THE STATE OF OREGON
FOR THE COUNTY OF HARNEY

In the Matter of a Declaration of)
Local Disaster and Request to)
Declare a State Drought Emergency)
For Harney County Oregon)

RESOLUTION #2021-06

THIS BEING the 05th day of May, 2021 and a day set aside for a regular meeting of the Harney County Court and there being present Pete Runnels, County Judge; Kristen Shelman, County Commissioner and Patty Dorroh, County Commissioner; and

WHEREAS, the Harney County Court finds that Harney County agricultural and livestock industries and related economy are suffering widespread and severe economic damage, potential injuries and loss of property resulting from extreme weather conditions within the County; and

WHEREAS, annual water supplies available for irrigators and ranchers within Harney County are from winter snow pack which is significantly lower than normal in the Harney basin; and

WHEREAS, the above conditions result in loss of economic stability, pasture shortages, decrease in feed production, shortened growing season and decreased water supplies for Harney County agricultural and livestock producers. In addition, if a multi-year cumulative drought occurs, it will result in decreased fuel moisture and early onset fire danger; and

WHEREAS, the County Court determines that extraordinary measures must be taken to alleviate suffering of people and livestock and to protect or mitigate economic loss and to be responsive to the threat of wildfires;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:

- 1) A local disaster is declared within Harney County.
- 2) The Harney County Drought Emergency Management Plan has been implemented.
- 3) Pursuant to ORS 401.015(2), we find that appropriate response is beyond the capability of Harney County. We are declaring a state of emergency for the purpose of assessment, evaluation and acquiring the ability to provide appropriate available resources.

4) **Request:** The Honorable Kate Brown, Governor of Oregon, declare a Drought Emergency for all of Harney County under the provisions of ORS 401.055 due to severe and continuing drought conditions beginning at this time and continuing for an unknown period of time; and direct the Oregon Department of Water Resources to make available in Harney County: Temporary Transfers of Water Rights, and Emergency Water Use Permits, and Use of Existing Right Option/Agreement; and other federal and state drought assistance and programs as needed.

5) This resolution shall take effect upon its issuance.

DONE AND DATED this 05th day of May, 2021.

HARNEY COUNTY COURT



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Pete Runnels".

Pete Runnels, Judge

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kristen Shelman".

Kristen Shelman, Commissioner

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Patty Dorroh".

Patty Dorroh, Commissioner