

## Walker River Paiute Tribe

1022 Hospital Road • P.O. Box 220 • Schurz, Nevada 89427

Telephone: (775) 773-2306 Fax: (775) 773-2585

# RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE WALKER RIVER PAIUTE TRIBE RESOLUTION NO. WR-20-2023

### TRIBAL COUNCIL AND OFFICERS FOR DECEMBER 2022- DECEMBER 2023

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE WALKER RIVER PAIUTE TRIBE THAT:

WHEREAS, the governing body of the Walker River Paiute Tribe is organized under the provisions of

the Indian Reorganization Act of June 1934 as amended, to exercise certain home rule and be responsible for the promotion of economic and social welfare of its members, and

WHEREAS, the Walker River Paiute Tribe filled the unexpired vacant Chairman seat to an appointed

term (2023-2024)

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council allowed for one (1) Chairman (Olen McCloud)

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Tribal Council and Officers consist of the following:

Tribal Chairman, Olen McCloud Vice-Chairman, Stacy Rita Hicks Secretary, Gina L. Wachsmuth Treasurer, Andrea A. Martinez Member, Taylor O'Daye Member, Genia Williams Member, Shannon Williams

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that the Walker River Paiute Tribal Council officers, including, Olen McCloud, Chairman, Stacy Rita Hicks, Vice-Chairman, Gina L. Wachsmuth, and Secretary, Andrea Martinez, Treasurer, are authorized to initiate Tribal Disbursements and/or Investment Instructions and will remain as authorized signatory agents until such time as those noted are changed via of Tribal Election or Resolution.

#### CERTIFICATION

It is hereby certified that the foregoing resolution of the Walker River Paiute Tribal Council of the Walker River Paiute Tribe composed of seven members, of whom 7 constituting a quorum were present at a meeting held on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of March 2023, and that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the affirmative vote of 6-FOR, 0-AGAINST, 0-ABSTENTIONS, pursuant to the authority contained in Article VI, Section 1 of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Walker River Paiute Tribe of Nevada, approved on March 26, 1937.

Gina L. Wachsmuth, Tribal Council Secretary
WALKER RIVER PAIUTE TRIBE



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## DISASTER DECLARATION EMERGENCY

March 12, 2023

Nevada State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) Executive Administrator 107 Jacobsen Way Carson City, Nevada 89711

Dear Ms. Parker:

Under the provisions of Section [Major Disaster citation (401), Emergency citation (501) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 5121-5207 (Stafford Act), and implemented by 44 CFR § [Major Disaster citation (206.36), Emergency citation (206.35)], I request that you declare a disaster for the *Walker River Paiute Tribe* a result of *the atmospheric river weather event from January 1, 2023 through March 31, 2023*.

Our teams did a Preliminary Disaster Assessment regarding threats to all those living within the boundaries of the Walker River Paiute Tribal Reservation due to the ongoing weather event that began with major power outages on December 31, 2022, through January 1, 2023, with a part of the Reservation going an added day before the power was restored. In addition, the heavy snowfall, heavy rains, and high winds have continued almost non-stop through today projected to last until March 31, 2023, or longer. Many of the homes on the Walker River Paiute Tribal Reservation did not have alternate heating sources besides their propane furnaces or pellet stoves, which resulted in many without an alternative heating source.

Should the flood waters close off road access to Yerington, Hawthorne, and Fallon, our tribal residents will be without food supplies, nor will they be able to travel for said supplies. The Walker River Paiute Tribe's Emergency Response Team met with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Western Nevada Agency's Superintendent to access the water situation today, March 12, 2023, which

seems imperative to take action to protect our residents and their needs. This will include having our Emergency Response Team available 24/7 to continue accessing the water situation; the needs of the people; the needs for an emergency place to convene should electricity go out again, or worse, supplies be non-existent.

- The majority of our resident do not have a generator or alternate power source to protect their food, water, and medical supplies that require refrigeration.
- Our Reservation's large number of diabetics will need to ensure they have medication, proper food, and if necessary an emergency contact to check on them, as necessary.
- The Tribe will be dependent on tribal staff (directors & employees) to ensure the above needs are met, meals are prepared, served & delivered, if necessary
- The majority of Walker River Paiute Tribal residents rely on cell phone communication and when the power is down/out, there is no internet, so no way to call out in case of emergency. All cell service providers were down during the power lapses.
- All staff will be on call for any event that results in the emergency needs of our residents, thus going door-to-door, if necessary, to ensure all residents are safe, secure, and being properly fed and cared for.
- Our disabled and elderly residents will require an in-home health aide or other medical professional from the Walker River Paiute Tribal Clinic to check in on them, daily, to ensure they are safe, and their needs are met.
- We had no alternative to electric back-up heaters, so staff will ensure all residents have sufficient blankets, clothing, etc. to ensure their safety, or notify the Emergency Response Team for placement of the individual and/or family.
- The economic impact is being determined, by the Walker River Paiute Tribal Council, Chairman, Directors, and staff to ensure the following are taken care of hiring extra help for snow and waste removal; heavy equipment because none of the departments have enough heavy equipment to deal with events of this duration.
- Staff will be asked to flex their time; however, they cannot make that work over a long-term event.
- The tribe is currently, preparing ditches as a secondary backup to relieve the over-flow of the river system throughout the Reservation and has opened the spillways, preparing for flood zones to be filled and restored.

Electrical outages do not qualify for assistance from American Red Cross, so the Walker River Paiute Tribe will be mandated to shoulder this responsibility. We will have various staff and also request our various departments to go door to door to assist residents with removal of spoiled food and have it dumped at our landfill.

We are looking for other resources such as sand, sand bags, snow removal equipment and extra volunteer help because the storm is ongoing through the end of March 2023.

The Emergency Response Team will meet to set up a warming center; establish places to sleep and cook 3 meals a day to ensure safety of its residents. Someone will coordinate games, TV and distractions while the residents waited for the power to come back on.

Housing will be filing insurance claims for damage to residences that are insured by the TDHD Tribal Designated Housing Department to have those repairs done.

The Walker River Paiute Tribe believes it is essential to take all steps necessary to ensure the safety of our homes, businesses, tribal offices, clinic, residents, etc.

The Walker River Paiute Tribal Reservation is located 30 miles from Hawthorne, Nevada; 25 miles from Yerington, Nevada, and 45 miles from Fallon, Nevada; there is no grocery stores located on the reservation, although there is a smoke shop to meet travelers needs and limited residents' needs, e.g., fuel, snacks, milk, etc.

Currently we are monitoring approximately 10 or more homes located on the immediate flood planes.

We sincerely appreciate the combined efforts of our local, state and federal agencies in handling this situation to the best outcome of all who are affected.

Respectfully,

Olen K. McCloud

Walker River Paiute Tribal Chairman

Enc.

Walker River Paiute Tribal Resolution No.

OMB No. 1660-0009/FEMA Form 010-0-13

A: Individual Assistance

B: Public Assistance

C: Requirements for Other Federal Agency Programs

D: Historic and Current Snowfall Data



Genia Williams, Council Member

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## **POLL VOTE**

Declaration of State of Emergency

March 13, 2023 Olen McCloud, Tribal Chairman Stacy Hicks, Vice Chairman FOR AGAINST / ABSTAIN Gina L. Wachsmuth, Secretary AGAINST / ABSTAIN Date 3/13/23 FOR AGAINST / ABSTAIN Shannon Williams, Council Member Date 3 13 23 FOR AGAINST / ABSTAIN FOR AGAINST / ABSTAIN



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# RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE WALKER RIVER PAIUTE TRIBE RESOLUTION WR-25-2023

Declaration of Emergency Due to Severe Weather Event/Flooding

## BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE WALKER RIVER PAIUTE TRIBE THAT:

- WHEREAS, the governing body of the Walker River Paiute Tribe of Nevada (Tribe") is organized under the provisions of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984) as amended, to exercise certain rights of home rule and be responsible for the promotion of the economic and social welfare of its members, and
- WHEREAS, the Walker River Paiute Tribe is being threatened by a severe weather event and possible flooding that has the potential to destroy significant amounts of property and has threatened the lives of the Walker River Paiute Tribal Reservation and its residents, and
- **WHEREAS**, the Walker River Paiute Tribal Council does not have sufficient resources to handle a severe weather event, such as flooding of this magnitude, and
- WHEREAS, the State of Nevada, county office of emergency services, the United States government and its emergency services office (e.g., FEMA), and various insurance companies contracted with the Walker River Paiute Tribe, its programs, and its residents, have the necessary resources to assist in preventing future damage from the weather event, including the potential for flooding, and to protect the property and residents of the Walker River Paiute Tribal Reservation, and
- WHEREAS, NRS Chapters 244 and 414 provide the statutory authority for an emergency declaration by the Walker River Paiute Tribal Council, and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Walker River Paiute Tribal Council hereby declares that a State of Emergency exists within the exterior boundaries of the Walker River

Paiute Tribal Reservation due to a severe weather event, including flooding, the threatens the health, safety, welfare, and property of Walker River Paiute Tribal residents, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT, the Walker River Paiute Tribal Council requests that the Governor investigate this severe weather event, including flooding, and declare that a State of Emergency exists in Lyon County. The Tribal Council also requests that the Governor order mandatory evacuation as well as providing state assistance to assist in the management of this event. The Walker River Paiute Tribal Council requests that the Governor contact Nevada's Congressional delegation to solicit their assistance in obtaining federal aid for this severe weather event, including flooding.

### **CERTIFICATION**

It is hereby certified that the foregoing resolution of the Walker River Paiute Tribal Council composed of seven members of whom, 7 constituting a quorum were polled on the day 13<sup>th</sup> day of, March 2023, and that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the affirmative vote of 7-FOR, 0-AGAINST, and 0-ABSTAINED, pursuant to the authority contained in Article VI, Section 1(e), of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Walker River Paiute Tribe, approved March 26, 1937.

Gina L. Wachsmuth, Tribal Council Secretary

WALKER RIVER PAIUTE TRIBE