

RESOLUTION NO. _____, SERIES OF 2026

**EXTENDING THE DISASTER DECLARATION REGARDING “ASPEN ACRES”
WILDLAND FIRE TO MIDNIGHT ON JULY 29, 2026**

WHEREAS, on July 3, 2026, the Chair of the Board of County Commissioners declared a Local Disaster Emergency due to the Aspen Acres Wildland Fire then burning in Custer and Pueblo County and threatening unincorporated southeastern Fremont County, Colorado near the Wetmore community in Custer County; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to C.R.S. §24-33.5-709, the Declaration of the Local Disaster Emergency is due to expire on July 10, 2026, seven days following the initiation of the Local Disaster Emergency Declaration; and

WHEREAS, the Aspen Acres Wildland Fire has now burned in excess of 91,000 acres, continues to threaten Fremont County, and residents have been evacuated from southeastern Fremont County in the vicinity of State Highway 67 and from the towns of Coal Creek, Rockvale and Williamsburg; and

WHEREAS, the Fremont County Emergency Manager has advised the Board of County Commissioners of Fremont County (“the Board”) that emergency management response, recovery and mitigation efforts are continuing, but have not been completed; and

WHEREAS, the Fremont County Emergency Manager and Fremont County Sheriff have informed the Board that an extension and continuation of the Declaration of a Local Disaster Emergency is necessary to continue the County’s access to state and federal resources for response, recovery and mitigation efforts; and

WHEREAS, C.R.S. §24-33.5-709 permits the Board to continue or renew the Local Disaster Emergency Declaration for a period in excess of seven days, if necessary, to continue the response and recovery aspects of the local disaster emergency.

NOW THEREFORE, THE FREMONT COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HEREBY MAKES THE FOLLOWING DECLARATIONS:

1. **Extension of Declaration.** The Declaration of Local Disaster Emergency dated July 3, 2026, is hereby approved and extended to July 29, 2026, due to the continuation of the response, recovery and mitigation of the Aspen Acres Wildland Fire in unincorporated southeastern Fremont County, Colorado near the Wetmore community.
2. **Emergency Plans.** Execution of all applicable local disaster emergency plans, interjurisdictional disaster emergency plans, and mutual aid agreements shall continue.
3. **Authorization.** The Director of the Office of Emergency Management, the Board, the Fremont County Sheriff, and the County Administrator have full authority to assign county personnel, expend financial resources (in consultation with the Board), use emergency

procurement procedures, suspend and re-assign any county operations or policy to provide full support to the emergency response.

4. **Ratification.** The Board hereby ratifies all other actions reasonably necessary to cope with the emergency taken by individual commissioners, elected officials, department heads, and emergency management personnel since the initial Declaration of Local Disaster Emergency.

5. **Distribution.** Copies of this Declaration shall be given prompt and general publicity through all local media sources, on the County website and Facebook page, and also shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk and Recorder, the Office of Emergency Management, and the Colorado Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, and other such agencies and entities as designated by the Board or as deemed necessary for the health, safety and welfare of the community.

6. **Safety.** The adoption of this Resolution is necessary for the immediate preservation of public health, safety and welfare.

7. **Severability.** All provisions of this Resolution are intended to be severable. If a court or administrative body declares any provision or its application to be invalid or unenforceable, in whole or in part, such determination shall not affect, impair or invalidate any other provision of this Resolution. If a court or administrative body determines a provision or its application to be valid or enforceable only if its application is limited, its application shall be limited as required to most fully implement its purpose.

8. **Amendment/Extension.** The Board reserves the right to further amend, extend or terminate this Declaration at any time prior to its termination date.

9. **Effective Date.** This Resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon adoption by the Board of County Commissioners.

Commissioner _____ moved for adoption of the foregoing Resolution, seconded by Commissioner _____ and approved by roll call vote as follows:

Debbie Bell	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Kevin J. Grantham	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Dwayne McFall	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain

Date: _____

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF FREMONT COUNTY

ATTEST:

By: _____
Chair

By: _____
Clerk to the Board