TORRANCE COUNTY RESOLUTION NO. 2025 - 45

A RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING A DISASTER DECLARATION FOR THE MELODY RANCH WATER SYSTEM FAILURE

WHEREAS, Melody Ranch is a subdivision located in the northwestern, unincorporated portion of Torrance County; and

WHEREAS, the Melody Ranch subdivision is made up of approximately 77 residential dwelling units, which house approximately 193 Torrance County residents; and

WHEREAS, the Melody Ranch Subdivision is serviced by a single well and single water utility provider, the Melody Ranch Water Company; and

WHEREAS, on or about June 30, 2025, the well that services Melody Ranch began to fail resulting in intermittent water availability for residents; and

WHEREAS, since this point in time, the residents of the Melody Ranch Subdivision have had significant periods with no water access, and as such, have been unable to take care of their basic needs; and

WHEREAS, the lack of water services has resulted in residents' inability to take care of their personal hygiene, properly dispose of human waste, properly manage their health, or to meet their basic water needs; and

WHEREAS, these situations have impacted the entire subdivision, including families with children, the elderly, residents with medical conditions and residents with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, as of the date of this declaration, the lack of water resources and resident's ability to meet their basic water needs still exist, creating a prolonged and continual emergency for the residents of the Melody Ranch Subdivision; and

WHEREAS, as of the date of this declaration, a definitive solution to repair or replace the failing water system has not been solidified; and

WHEREAS, this area of Torrance County was so severely impacted as to issue a local disaster declaration for the Melody Ranch water system failure; and

WHEREAS, the County Commission further recognizes an imminent and prominent threat to public health from a failure of the community water system; and

WHEREAS, the disaster requires immediate action to protect public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, due to the nature of this disaster, the disaster is beyond local control and requires the resources of the State of New Mexico to minimize economic or physical harm and to take action necessary to protect the public health, safety and welfare.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF TORRANCE COUNTY, by virtue of the authority provided in the All Hazard Emergency Management Act, NMSA 1978, Sections 12-10-1 to -10, as well as NMSA 1978, Sections 12-11-24 to -25, does hereby declare a state of disaster in the County of Torrance for the purposes of exercising necessary emergency powers, expending available resources, and requesting aid, assistance, and relief programs and funds available from the State of New Mexico for the purpose of providing emergency water access for the Melody Ranch Water System Failure.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED THIS 27 DAY OF CTOBER , 2025.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF TORRANCE COUNTY:

Ryan Schwebach, Chair, District 2

Kevin McCall, Vice Chair, District 1

Linda Jaramillo, Member, District 3

10/27/9095 Date

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Michael Garcia, Torrance County Attorney