

DECLARATION ORDER No. 2025-01

**DECLARATION OF A LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY
COUNTY OF OWEN, STATE OF INDIANA**

WHEREAS, under Indiana Code 36-2-2-2, the Board of County Commissioners is designated the County Executive for the purposes of conducting the county business;

WHEREAS, the undersigned is the President of the Owen County Board of Commissioners;

WHEREAS, Indiana Code 10-14-3-29(a)(1) provides the principal executive officer, President of the Board of Commissioners, with the authority to declare a “local disaster emergency” which activates the response and recovery aspects of all applicable local or interjurisdictional disaster emergency plans and authorizes the furnishing of aid and assistance under the plans;


WHEREAS, during the week of April 1, 2025, a natural disaster, specifically severe storms and flooding have devastated certain portions of Owen County, Indiana;

NOW, THEREFORE, under the authority vested in me as President of the Owen County Board of Commissioners, Owen County, Indiana, IT IS HEREBY DECLARED THAT:

1. As of April 5, 2025, a local disaster emergency exists in the County of Owen, Indiana, due to a natural disaster, specifically one or more tornados and severe storms. Pursuant to I.C. 10-14-3-1 the term “disaster” includes “flood” “windstorm” and “tornado.”
2. Pursuant to I.C. 10-13-3-29(b) the activation of the response and recovery aspects of all applicable local or interjurisdictional disaster emergency plans and authorization of the furnishing of aid and assistance under the plans is hereby ordered.
3. All individuals are directed to: (A) refrain from all travel in areas of high water, downed power lines, and trees/debris across roads; (B) comply with necessary emergency measures; (C) cooperate with public officials and disaster services forces; and, (D) obey and comply with the lawful direction of properly identified officers.
4. All public offices and employees of Owen County must exercise utmost diligence in the discharge of the duties required of them during the declared emergency and in the execution of emergency laws, regulations and directives, whether federal, state, or local.
5. All individuals are called upon and directed to comply with all emergency measures, to cooperate with public officials and disaster service forces in executing emergency operation plans, and to obey and comply with the lawful direction of properly identified officers.
6. All operating forces will direct their communications and requests for assistance and operations directly to the Owen County Emergency Operation Center

7. This declaration will remain in effect for seven (7) days unless (1) consent to its extension is given by the Owen County Board of Commissioners and (2) it is in fact extended by further executive order or by resolution of the Owen County Board of Commissioners; or, terminated by the President of the Owen County Board of Commissioners.
8. This declaration shall be filed with the clerk of the Owen County Board of Commissioners in conformity with Indiana Code 10-14-3-29(a).
9. This Declaration is effective as of April 5, 2025.

Dated this 5 Day of April, 2025



Sam Hobbs President,
Owen County Board of Commissioners