

**EMERGENCY MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD**  
**July 28, 2021**

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners held an emergency meeting in the Commissioners' Room at 8:00 AM on Wednesday, July 28, 2021. The purpose of the meeting was to ratify the emergency declaration signed by Chairman Backer on July 26, 2021. Chairman Backer called the meeting to order with Commissioners Athey, Klages, Olson and Sandberg present. Also present were Coordinator Pam Rud and County Auditor-Treasurer Michelle Knutson. Emergency Management Director Dona Greiner was present via TEAMS.

Following the pledge of allegiance, motion by Olson, seconded by Athey and carried to ratify and adopt the following resolution:

**2021-26**

WHEREAS, a large structure fire in the City of Clinton has prompted the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners to declare a State of Emergency; and  
WHEREAS, the Wheaton Dumont CO-OP Elevator fire within the City of Clinton has impacted the population of the City of Clinton and Big Stone County; and  
WHEREAS, subject matter experts have determined that proactive measures must be undertaken to reduce the impact of the emergency response, and activity will be beyond the usual resources of Big Stone County; and  
WHEREAS, the fire incident has caused a significant amount of property damage with more than ten homes evacuated; and  
WHEREAS, response and support to individuals, communities, medical systems, businesses and government has caused significant impact to the City of Clinton and Big Stone County as a whole; and  
WHEREAS, the Big Stone County Emergency Management Director recommends the Chair of the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners declare that a state of emergency exists in Big Stone County. This declaration activates the local Emergency Operations Plan and authorizes aid and assistance to incur obligations necessary to combat the emergency by protecting the health and safety of our community.  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Jay Backer, Chair of the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners, hereby declare a local state of emergency in the County of Big Stone, Minnesota, as of July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021, due to ongoing and expected responses to and recovery from the City of Clinton Elevator fire.

EMD Greiner reported that 19 fire departments responded as well as many other groups and individuals. She expressed her thanks and appreciation to everyone involved.

Chairman Backer adjourned the meeting.

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Jay Backer, Chairman

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor-Treasurer