

The Cassia County Board of Commissioners met this day with Chairman Dennis Crane and Clay Handy, Board Members; Alfred E. Barrus, Prosecuting Attorney; Larry A. Mickelsen, Clerk of the Board, Sheriff Jim Higen, Captain Cary Bristol and Kerry D. McMurray, County Administrator, present. Commissioner Christensen was not able to attend because of a previously scheduled commitment.

**DISASTER DECLARATION**

The Board met at 11:00am to discuss declaring the Marsh Creek, Land Creek, Birch Creek and Raft River drainages as a disaster area. Chairman Crane reported that the City of Albion has declared an emergency because of the flooding within the city limits. Sheriff Higen has spoken with Oakley Mayor Greenwell, and the emergency has decreased and no emergency will be declared at this time. Sheriff Higen borrowed 3000 sand bags from Minidoka County for use by the Cities of Albion, Almo and Oakley to aid in prevention of flooding. Chairman Crane reported that there are many bridges and roads washed out in the Albion Highway District because of Marsh and Land Creeks overflowing. Steve Freiburger has stated that perhaps Cassia County can qualify for LHTAC funds to assist in the repair of bridges that have been damaged. Sheriff Higen called Gary Davis, Area Field Officer for Homeland Security in Twin Falls and the Board asked pertinent questions regarding declaring a disaster emergency. Mr. Davis' recommendation was to declare the entire county as a disaster area, because the emergency can be rescinded when the situation improves.

At 11:40am, Commissioner Handy moved that Cassia County be declared as a disaster emergency area and Chairman Crane seconded the motion. Both Chairman Crane and Commissioner Handy voted in the affirmative to declare Cassia County a disaster emergency area.

Sheriff Higen requested permission to purchase 4500 sand bags, 3000 to replace those borrowed from Minidoka County and 1500 to be placed in Almo and Oakley in the event of further flood danger.

**ATTEST:**

**APPROVED:**

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Larry A. Mickelsen, Clerk

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Dennis Crane, Chairman