Proclamation

WHEREAS, beginning on Tuesday February 5, 2019 and lasting through Wednesday, February 13, 2019, severe storms and excessive rainfall resulting in localized flooding impacts created dangerous and damaging conditions affecting the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Ohio; and

WHEREAS, Brown, Guernsey, Jackson, Monroe, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble, Pike, Ross and Vinton Counties have declared emergencies, and Adams, Athens, Gallia, Hocking, Jefferson, Lawrence, Meigs, Perry, Scioto and Washington Counties are in need of services from State departments and agencies to assist in alleviating the consequences of this incident, in the event they exhaust their available local resources; and

WHEREAS, many of the effected counties are still recovering from damaging conditions that resulted from severe storms, heavy rains, and flooding in February of 2018 resulting in an Emergency Proclamation and Presidential Major Disaster Declaration; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Ohio Revised Code section 5502.22, this proclamation is necessary to authorize previously-alerted state departments and agencies to prepare to respond to the impacted counties as needed.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mike DeWine, Governor of the State of Ohio, hereby declare that a state of emergency exists for Adams, Athens, Brown, Gallia, Guernsey, Hocking, Jackson, Jefferson, Lawrence, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble, Perry, Pike, Ross, Scioto, Vinton, and Washington counties, and any other counties that subsequently declare an emergency due to dangerous and damaging conditions resulting from these severe storms and heavy rains, justifying the authorization of personnel of state departments and agencies as are necessary, to coordinate the state and federal response and to assist in protecting the lives, safety, health, and property of the citizens of Ohio; and

FURTHER, I hereby further request the Department of Administrative Services and other departments and agencies of the state to suspend purchasing and contracting requirements contained in Chapters 125 and 153 of the Revised Code, pursuant to Section 125.061 of the Revised Code, during the period of the emergency for the Ohio Emergency Management Agency and any other state agency participating in emergency assistance under this declaration, in order to procure any necessary resources or supplies to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the above listed Counties and any other counties that subsequently declare a state of emergency due to the above described event; and

FURTHER, This Proclamation does not require the implementation of the Department of Administrative Services Directive HR-D-11 or the Department of Administrative Services’ “Weather (Public Safety) Procedure.” Accordingly, state employees’ obligation to travel to and from work is not to be limited as a result of this proclamation; and

FURTHER, I signed this Proclamation on March 11, 2019, in Columbus, Ohio, and it shall take effect immediately and remain in full force and effect until the emergency no longer exists, such time to be determined by the Executive Director of the Emergency Management Agency in consultation with the Governor, who will coordinate state response efforts and terminate the emergency upon the recommendation of appropriate officials of the other responding state department/ agencies.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name at Columbus, Ohio, on the 11th day of March, 2019.

MIKE DE WINE
Governor