

**Nassau County Board of County Commissioners  
Special Session, August 31, 2019, 10:30 a.m.  
Commission Chambers, 96135 Nassau Place, Yulee, Florida**

Call to Order

**Commissioners:**

**Present:** Chairman Justin Taylor, Commissioners Daniel B. Leeper, Aaron C. Bell, Pat Edwards, and Thomas R. Ford.

**Other Officials Present:** Michael S. Mullin, County Attorney/County Manager; and Taco Pope, Assistant County Manager.

**Staff Present:** Megan Diehl, Office of Management and Budget Director; and representing the Clerk's office Brenda Linville and Peggy Snyder, Deputy Clerks.

**Audience Input:**

None.

**SPECIAL MEETING:**

**SS190831 - 10:30:09 (Tab A)** Update on Hurricane Dorian; consideration of a Resolution declaring a Local State of Emergency; and discuss of possible evacuation orders.

**Discussion:** Mr. Mullin explained that this meeting was originally scheduled for 3:00 p.m. today; however, following a conversation he had with Emergency Management Director, Greg Foster, and based upon the change in the tracking of Hurricane Dorian, it was decided to move the meeting back to 10:30 a.m. today to consider the Local State of Emergency.

Director Foster provided an update on Hurricane Dorian following a conversation he had with the National Weather Service prior to this meeting. The projected path of the hurricane is to remain approximately 80 miles offshore of Florida as a Category Two hurricane. The National Weather Service projects that Nassau County will be receiving tropical storm force winds along the coastal areas with five to eight inches of rain.

Mr. Mullin advised that staff has been prepositioned, sand bags have been addressed, and road crews are out tending to ditches. The Local State of Emergency is declared in seven day increments and can be canceled anytime. Once the Local State of Emergency has been declared, the emergency management plan is enacted and the purchasing policy becomes more liberal and more flexible. Under the emergency management plan, the County Manager has the authority to cancel the Local State of Emergency. Staff recommends the Board approve the Local State of Emergency.

**Motion: Approve Resolution 2019-135, a Declaration of a State of Local Emergency due to Hurricane Dorian for a seven-day period beginning August 31, 2019.**

**Maker: Commissioner Edwards**

**Second: Commissioner Bell**

**Action: Aye: Commissioners Leeper, Bell, Edwards, Ford, and Taylor**

**Follow Up: County Manager, Sheriff, Emergency Operation Center, Constitutional officers**

Mr. Mullin advised that he had spoken with Director Foster who advised that the Emergency Operations Center will go to Level One activation at 6:00 a.m. tomorrow. Regarding evacuations, it will be suggested that residents in Zone A, mobile and manufactured homes, and low-lying areas such as Thomas Creek should consider making plans for voluntary evacuation. Depending on the next briefing, an order for mandatory evacuation can be made. In speaking with the Superintendent of Schools, the plan is for the schools to close on Tuesday, September 3, 2019. Director Foster explained that the shelters would be Hilliard Middle/Senior School for the special needs and pet friendly shelter and Hilliard Elementary would be the general population shelter.

Mr. Mullin advised that the Board has a special meeting with the School Board and there is a Planning and Zoning Board meeting September 3, 2019. He recommended that Planning staff notify the Planning and Zoning Board members and those who have items on the agenda in order to move the meeting to September 10, 2019. As to the School Board meeting, Mr. Mullin will confer with Dr. Burns, School Board Superintendent and make a decision based upon an order for a mandatory evacuation.

There being no further business, the special session of the Nassau County Board of County Commissioners adjourned at 10:42 a.m.

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Justin Taylor, Chairman

Attest:

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John A. Crawford, Ex-Officio Clerk