



BRAZOS COUNTY
BRYAN, TEXAS

DECLARATION OF DISASTER

WHEREAS, on June 28, 2023, Legionella bacteria was identified in a component of the Brazos County Jail's HVAC system;

WHEREAS, on June 29, 2023, Brazos County Judge Duane Peters signed a Declaration of Disaster;

WHEREAS, additional damage will occur if emergency remediation is not begun immediately;

WHEREAS, the risk of infection and the cost of remediation will increase exponentially if mitigating efforts are not immediately employed;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Texas Disaster Act of 1975, Sec. 418.108 of the Texas Government Code the County Judge may declare a local state of disaster in and for the County, and may exercise the powers granted therein on an appropriate local scale;

WHEREAS, a declaration of local disaster includes the ability to reduce potential for damage to property and reduce the possibility of exposure to disease, control the risk, promote health, compel persons to undergo additional health measures that prevent or control the spread of disease, and request assistance from the governor of state resources;

WHEREAS, the County Judge's Declaration can only last seven (7) days as a matter of law and the state of disaster continues to exist at this time;

WHEREAS, by this declaration, we declare all rules and regulations that may inhibit or prevent prompt response to this threat suspended for the duration of the incident;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority granted to the County under the Texas Disaster Act of 1975, we authorize the use of all available resources of state government and political subdivisions to assist in the County's response to this situation; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners Court of Brazos County, has determined that extraordinary and immediate measures must continue to be taken to respond quickly, prevent and alleviate the potential for property damage, and risk to the health of the staff and the public.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DECLARED BY THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF THE COUNTY OF BRAZOS:

1. That a local state of disaster and public health emergency is hereby declared for the Brazos County Detention Center, Brazos County, Texas, pursuant to Section 418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code.

2. Pursuant to Section 418.108(b) of the Government Code, the state of disaster and public health emergency shall continue for a period of not more than thirty (30) days from the date of this declaration unless continued or renewed by the Brazos County Commissioners Court.
3. Pursuant to Section 418.108(c) of the Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster and public health emergency shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk.
4. Pursuant to Section 418.108(d) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster and public health emergency does not activate Brazos County's Emergency Management Plan.
5. Pursuant to the authority granted under the laws of the State of Texas, this declaration authorizes Brazos County to take any actions necessary to promote health and suppress disease, including transferring funds and arranging for immediate emergency repairs to the buildings.

This declaration shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

DECLARED this _____ day of July 2023.

Duane Peters
County Judge

Commissioner Steve Aldrich
Precinct 1

Commissioner Chuck Konderla
Precinct 2

Commissioner Nancy Berry
Precinct 3

Commissioner Wanda J. Watson
Precinct 4

Attest: Karen McQueen, County Clerk