



**AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET**  
**Morrow County Board of Commissioners**

(for BOC Use)  
Item #  
4.h.

**Presenter at BOC:** Matthew Jensen, County Administrator,  
Tamra Mabbott, Planning Director

**Date Submitted:** November 29, 2024

**Department:** Planning Department

**Requested Agenda Date:** December 4, 2024

**Short Title of Agenda Item:** Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

**1. ISSUES, BACKGROUND, DISCUSSION AND OPTIONS (IF ANY):**

The 2024 Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan (NHMP) was reviewed by the Board of Commissioners on August 21, 2024, and then adopted on September 18, 2024. At both meetings several errors were noted. Since then, Planning staff completed a full cover to cover review and made editions to the document, then routed to Oregon Emergency Management (OEM) for review. OEM then routed to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) who also approved. Although both agencies had approved the earlier versions, they noted that none of the edits were substantive and therefore their earlier approval date would stand. A final review of the NHMP has been performed after a number of errors were still noted during review on November 6, 2024.

Upon final Board approval, County Emergency Management and Planning staff will circulate the NHMP to each city in Morrow County for their adoption. Each city may make additional changes if they choose. Each city will need to adopt their version of the NHMP within 12 months of the Approvable Pending Adoption (APA) letter date from FEMA, which was August 6, 2024.

The planning process for the plan update began in 2022 and included Emergency Management staff, cities, special district, Forest Service, fire districts and the Morrow County Health District. During that two and a half year period, the consulting team and the state changed four times. The county lead changed to the Emergency Manager and then it was handed back to the Planning Department.

The proposed Resolution R-2024-16 will replace the prior Resolution, per County Counsel direction.

**2. FOR CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS:**

Contractor/Entity:

Contractor/Entity Address:

Effective Dates - From:

Through:

Total Contract Amount:

**3. FISCAL IMPACT:**

N/A

**4. SUGGESTED ACTION(S)/MOTION(S):**

Motion to approve the final version of the 2024 Morrow County Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan and adopt Resolution R-2024-29

**5. ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan - Final
2. R-2024-29 NHMP 12-4

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
FOR MORROW COUNTY, OREGON**

IN THE MATTER OF A RESOLUTION       )  
ADOPTING THE REVISED 2024 MORROW    )  
COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL        )  
NATURAL HAZARDS MITIGATION PLAN    )

RESOLUTION NO. R-2024-29  
REPLACING PRIOR RESOLUTION  
R-2024-16

**WHEREAS**, natural hazards threaten life, businesses, property, and environmental systems throughout Morrow County.

**WHEREAS**, an understanding of the nature, extent, and potential impacts of natural hazards is the foundation for developing strategies to reduce or eliminate those impacts.

**WHEREAS**, natural hazards mitigation planning is the process through which such understanding and strategies are developed and a process for implementation is established throughout Morrow County.

**WHEREAS**, it is in the interest of Morrow County and the cities and special districts located therein to undertake natural hazards mitigation planning and implementation together as coordinated planning strengthens communities and better serves all.

**WHEREAS**, Morrow County and the Cities of Heppner, Lexington, Ione, Boardman and Irrigon previously prepared, implemented and updated multi-jurisdictional natural hazard mitigation plans in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000. These plans were each approved by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for a period of five years.

**WHEREAS**, the Morrow County Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan update is the most recent and it expired in 2021.

**WHEREAS**, having a natural hazards mitigation plan developed in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 and approved by FEMA is a prerequisite for local government eligibility for certain federal pre- and post-disaster mitigation funds.

**WHEREAS**, Morrow County and the Cities of Heppner, Lexington, Ione, Boardman and Irrigon and the Morrow County Health District, Heppner and Boardman Fire Districts each participated in completing the 2024 County Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000.

**WHEREAS**, as a result of coordinated planning, the 2024 Morrow County Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan is based on the county's plan within Volume I and includes an individual addendum for each participating jurisdiction.

**WHEREAS**, adoption of the updated 2024 Morrow County Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan is required for FEMA approval of the 2024 Morrow County Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan and restored eligibility for certain federal pre- and post-disaster mitigation funds.

**WHEREAS**, adoption of the updated 2024 Morrow County Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan demonstrates the Morrow County's commitment to reducing or eliminating the potential impacts of natural hazards and to achieving the Plan's goals.

**WHEREAS**, several revisions and minor amendments have been made since the adoption of the preliminary 2024 Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan via R-2024-16 on September 18, 2024.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** THAT THE MORROW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ADOPTS THE REVISED 2024 MORROW COUNTY NATURAL HAZARDS MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE THEREBY REPLACING THE 2016 NATURAL HAZARDS MITIGATION PLAN, AND SUPERSEDING THE DOCUMENT ADOPTED VIA RESOLUTION NUMBER R-2024-16.

**Section 1 Title of Resolution:**

This Resolution shall be known, and may be cited, as the "2024 NATURAL HAZARDS MITIGATION PLAN".

**Section 2 Effective Date:**

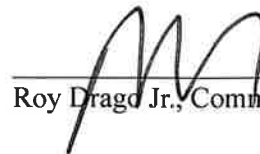
This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its adoption.

**ADOPTED** BY THE MORROW COUNY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS THIS 4<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF DECEMBER, 2024

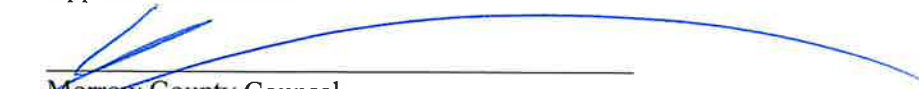
**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF  
MORROW COUNTY, OREGON**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
David Sykes, Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeff Wenholtz, Commissioner

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Roy Drago Jr., Commissioner

Approve as to Form:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Morrow County Counsel  
Justin Nelson  
OSB #674760