PROCLAMATION 2024/01

PROCLAMATION DECLARING STATE OF EMERGENCY IN BEAUFORT COUNTY, DUE TO TROPICAL STORM DEBBY

WHEREAS, Beaufort County Ordinance 2022/28 grants the Chairman of the County Council the power to issue proclamations and regulations concerning public safety, disaster relief, and related matters which shall have the full force and effect of law during an emergency; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 2022/28 provides that the Chairman of the County Council may declare a state of emergency if the Chairman finds a disaster has occurred or that the threat thereof is <u>imminent</u> and emergency measures are deemed necessary to cope with the existing or anticipated situation; and

WHEREAS, I find that:

- 1. Tropical Storm Debby is a deadly storm;
- 2. Tropical Storm Debby is expected to strike Beaufort County on or about August 5, 2024;
- 3. Tropical Storm Debby is an imminent threat to life, health, public safety, and general welfare of the entire geographic area of Beaufort County and its residents; and
- 4. Emergency measures are necessary to cope with the existing and anticipated dangers presented by Tropical Storm Debby.

THEREFORE, I HEREBY DECLARE A STATE OF EMERGENCY IN ALL AREAS OF BEAUFORT COUNTY DUE TO THE DANGERS PRESENTED BY TROPICAL STORM DEBBY. I AFFIRM THE DUTIES, OBLIGATION, AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIVISION COMMANDER AND THE DIRECTOR OF THE RECOVERY TASK FORCE AS SET FORTH IN CHAPTER 22, BEAUFORT COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES AND IN PARTICULAR ARTICLE IV THEREOF AND THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE BEAUFORT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE TO ENFORCE ANY CURFEWS, RE-ENTRY PROCEDURES AND ALL OTHER SHORT-TERM EMERGENCY MATTERS. THIS STATE OF EMERGENCY SHALL LAST UNTIL AUGUST 11, 2024, UNLESS RESCINDED BY ME BEFORE THAT DATE.

The Proclamation shall become effective at 2:00 P.M this 5th day of August 2024.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF BEAUFORT COUNTY

Joseph Passiment, Chairman

ATTEST:

Sarah Brock, Clerk to Council