WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TEXAS

COUNTY JUDGE

WILLIAMSON COUNTY COURTHOUSE
710 MAIN STREET, SUITE 101
GEORGETOWN, TEXAS 78626
(512) 943-1550

BILL GRAVELL, JR.
COUNTY JUDGE

TERRY COOK
COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT 1

CYNTHIA LONG
COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT 2

VALERIE COVEY
COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT 3

RUSS BOLES
COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT 4

ORDER DECLARING A LOCAL STATE OF DISASTER FOR WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TEXAS

WHEREAS, Section 418.004(1) of the *Texas Government Code* defines disaster to be the "occurrence or imminent threat of widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property resulting from any natural or man-made cause, including fire, flood, earthquake, wind, storm, wave action, oil spill or other water contamination, volcanic activity, epidemic, air contamination, blight, drought, infestation, explosion, riot, hostile military or paramilitary action, other public calamity requiring emergency action, or energy emergency;" and

WHEREAS, the **County of Williamson, Texas,** is under imminent threat of widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property resulting from severe weather conditions consisting of multiple tornados, high winds and severe thunderstorms;

WHEREAS, the County Judge of Williamson County has determined, from statements and information provided by Williamson County Emergency Management personnel, state and local elected officials, and other emergency services agencies serving Williamson County, Texas that extraordinary measures must continue to be taken to alleviate and prevent the suffering of people and to protect or rehabilitate property; and

WHEREAS, due to the disaster conditions as cited herein the County Judge of Williamson County **must protect the health, safety and welfare** of the County's citizens; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT DECLARED and ORDERED pursuant to the authority granted in the Texas Disaster Act of Chapter 418 Texas Government Code, as follows:

1. That a local state of disaster is hereby declared for Williamson County pursuant to Section 418.108(a) of the *Texas Government Code;*

2. Pursuant to the authority granted under the laws of the State of Texas, Williamson County may take all legal actions necessary to protect the health of persons in Williamson County, Texas;

3. Pursuant to Section 418.108(d) of the *Texas Government Code*, this Declaration and Order activates the recovery and rehabilitation aspects of the Williamson County Emergency Management Plan and authorizes the furnishing of aid and assistance under this Declaration and Order. The preparedness and response aspects of the Williamson County Emergency Management Plan are hereby activated and shall take effect immediately upon this Declaration and Order;

4. Pursuant to Section 418.108(b) of the *Texas Government Code*, the state of local disaster shall continue for a period of not more than seven (7) days from the date of this Declaration and Order unless continued or renewed by the Commissioners Court of Williamson County, Texas;

5. Pursuant to Section 418.108(c) of the *Texas Government Code*, this Declaration and Order shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the Williamsons County Clerk.

6. A violation of this Declaration and Order shall be a criminal offense punishable by a fine that does not exceed $1,000.00 or confinement in jail for a term not to exceed 180 days, as authorized by Section 418.173 of the *Texas Government Code*.

7. In the event the conditions improve between date of adoption and the end of the effective date of this Declaration and Order, the County Judge shall reevaluate this Declaration and Order at that time.

This Declaration and Order is adopted this 21st day of March, 2022 at 10:00 p.m., to be effective immediately.

Bill Gravell, Jr.
Williamson County Judge