



The Alleghany County Board of Commissioners met in an emergency session on Saturday, September 15th, 2018, at 2:00 pm in the Board Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, 348 South Main Street, Sparta, North Carolina.

Present: Chair Mark Evans, Commissioner Larry Prince, Commissioner John Irwin, County Manager, Mike James, Daniel Roten, Sheriff Brian Maines, Town Manager Bryan Edwards and Mayor Wes Brinegar.

Chair Mark Evans said the discussion was started Wednesday with regards to the storm coming in and reviewing the county Emergency Plan. He said now is the closest opportunity to possibly declare a state of emergency. He said with the forecast calling for 6-15 inches of rain throughout the county, wind advisory up to 45 MPH winds and the already saturated conditions, there could be a lot of trees down and he wanted to get everyone's input. He said travel could be very hazardous to our citizens. He opened the discussion to the weather conditions, state of emergency and potential travel ban.

Commissioner John Irwin said with the state of the ground, additional water and winds, there will be power outages. He said it would be prudent at this time to declare a state of emergency with a ban on travel.

Daniel Roten played a video from the National Weather Service out of Blacksburg, VA. Daniel explained concerns about streams and creeks in our area and the potential for flooding.

Commissioner Larry Prince said his main concern now was people being out on the roads Sunday morning for church services. He recommended getting the word out to churches to cancel church services.

County Manager, Mike James agreed contacting churches was a good idea.

Mayor Wes Brinegar asked that people stay in contact and check on your neighbors; let others know you are "okay."

Town Manager Brian Edwards said travel conditions are our largest risk and we should encourage people to stay home.

Sheriff Bryan Maines said the Sheriff's Department had compiled a church directory and he wanted to reach out to them as well as his Facebook followers to limit travel on Sunday.

Daniel Roten shared some ideas about a travel ban, curfew or limited travel recommendation and the board discussed.

Fire Chief Joseph McGrady recommended at a minimum to strongly suggest citizens not come out after dark.

Chair Mark Evans declared a state of emergency for Alleghany county and strongly recommended folks who don't have to be out to stay off the roads. He explained the purpose of declaring a state of emergency was to message to the citizens how possibly treacherous the conditions are and if the damages warrant state or federal money, a state of emergency would have to be declared to take advantage of those funds.

Mayor Wes Brinegar declared a state of emergency for the town of Sparta and strongly recommended citizens be home by dark so the roads are open for emergency vehicles.

Chair Mark Evans closed the meeting with a prayer.



Alleghany County Board of Commissioners

9/15/18 Minutes

Respectfully Submitted,

Attest:

Drew Temple  
Clerk to the Board

Mark Evans  
Chair of the Board