



**SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA – MARCH 17, 2024 AT 9:00 A.M.**  
**GILPIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

Marie A. Mornis, District 1

Susan Berumen, District 2

Sandy Hollingsworth, District 3

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*This meeting will be held online only via Zoom*  
*Please visit [tinyurl.com/GilpinCommissioners](https://tinyurl.com/GilpinCommissioners) to attend virtually.*  
*Please silence all electronic devices and keep quiet while the meeting is in session.*  
***Please sign up for public or press comments prior to start of meeting.***

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- 9:00 a.m.**
- 1.** Call to Order
  
  - 2.** Order Declaring a Disaster In and For Gilpin County – Ray Rears, County Manager
  
  - 3.** Public Comment (Limited to three minutes each)
  
  - 4.** Adjourn

Public hearings will begin at the noticed time or later. All other agenda times are estimates and may be heard earlier or later than designated. To request an accommodation to participate in or attend the Commissioners' meeting, please notify Deputy Clerk Lyndsey Denton at 303-582-6010, at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

**ORDER DECLARING A DISASTER IN AND FOR GILPIN COUNTY PURSUANT TO C.R.S. 24-33.5-709**

**WHEREAS**, the Colorado Disaster Emergency Act, Colorado Revised Statutes (C.R.S.) § 24-33.5-701, *et seq.*, provides procedures for statewide and local prevention of, preparation for, response to, and recovery from disasters; and,

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-33.5-703(3), a "disaster" is defined to mean "the occurrence or imminent threat of widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property resulting from any natural cause or human origin, including but not limited to fire, flood, earthquake, wind, storm, wave action, hazardous substance incident, oil spill or water contamination requiring emergency action to avert danger or damage, volcanic activity, epidemic, air pollution, blight, drought, infestation, explosion, civil disturbance, or hostile military or paramilitary action, or a condition of riot, insurrection, invasion"; and,

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709, a local disaster may be declared "only by the principal executive officer of a political subdivision"; and,

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to C.R.S. §§ 30-10-307 and 308 as amended, the chair of the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) is the principal executive officer of Gilpin County and, in the absence of the chair, the chair pro tem is, or in their absence, the County Manager is statutorily authorized by prior delegation from the Board of County Commissioners to act as the principal executive officer in said capacity; and,

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709(1), the declaration of a local disaster "shall not be continued or renewed for a period in excess of seven days except by or with the consent of the governing board of the political subdivision;" and,

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709(1), any order declaring, continuing, or terminating a local disaster "shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the county clerk and recorder;" and,

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709(2), the effect of declaring a local disaster "is to activate the response and recovery aspects of any and all applicable local and interjurisdictional disaster emergency plans and to authorize the furnishing of aid and assistance under such plans"; and,

**WHEREAS**, by declaring a local disaster, the Gilpin County Disaster Policies are in effect; and,

**WHEREAS**, on Wednesday at 2 p.m. on March 13, 2024 snow began to fall in Gilpin County from a strong winter snow storm which have continued through Thursday March 14, 2024, resulting in snowfall totals in Gilpin County of up to and in excess of three feet and up to more than five feet in some locations. An additional fifteen inches of snow are projected today and more snow is projected to continue through Friday March 15 and possibly the morning of Saturday March 16, adding to those snow totals.

**WHEREAS**, this severe weather has resulted in preventing any safe travel to and from Gilpin County, has overwhelmed local law enforcement and emergency services, and

has generally created dangerous conditions for all. Also, the snow has a very high water content making it very heavy, resulting in ineffective snow removal unless more plows and equipment are made available to every location.

**WHEREAS**, all jurisdictions with Gilpin County have suffered a disaster as defined under C.R.S. § 24-33.5-703(3); and,

**WHEREAS**, the cost and magnitude of responding to and recovering from the impact of this disaster exceeds Gilpin County's available resources.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED**, by the Gilpin County Manager Ray Rears, chair or chair pro tem of the Board of County Commissioners, County of Gilpin, State of Colorado, that a disaster emergency is declared in the County of Gilpin, Colorado, beginning at 3:15 p.m. MST on Thursday March 14, 2024 and ending at 12:00P.M. MST on Saturday March 16, 2024.

Gilpin County Manager  
Ray Rears

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Date: \_\_\_\_\_