

Tony Brown, Chairman  
David Walker, Vice Chairman  
Chris Allison, Commissioner  
Patrick Ellis, Commissioner  
Brenda Vaughn, Commissioner



Ashley Wooten, County Manager  
Cheryl Mitchell, Clerk to the Board  
Donald Fred Coats, County Attorney

**DECLARATION of a LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY  
McDOWELL COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA**

**August 16, 2021**

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 is a serious communicable disease that can result in serious illness or death; and

**WHEREAS**, in response to the global spread of the virus and the disease it causes, the World Health Organization (WHO) has declared COVID-19 a Public Health Emergency of International Concern; the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has warned of the high public health threat posed by COVID-19 globally and in the United States; the United States Department of Health and Human Services Secretary declared a public health emergency in the United States for COVID-19; and the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) confirmed multiple cases of COVID-19 in North Carolina; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chairman of the McDowell County Board of Commissioners declared a State of Emergency in McDowell County, including the Town of Old Fort on March 17, 2020 and activated the County's Emergency Operations Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, that State of Emergency was previously discontinued due to improved conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners have previously indicated that they will make adjustments to County operations, directives, and declarations as necessary, including the possibility of reinstating a State of Emergency.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, pursuant to the authority contained in the McDowell County State of Emergency Ordinance and under Article 1A of Chapter 166A and 36A of Chapter 14 of North Carolina General Statutes, and under the McDowell County Emergency Operations Plan; I hereby declare a **State of Emergency** exists for McDowell County and the Town of Old Fort.

Further, I hereby request that all persons within the geographical limits of McDowell County follow CDC recommendations for mitigating the spread of COVID-19 in the community.

Further, I direct that copies of the Declaration be distributed to the news media for publication and broadcast; a copy be posted on the County's website; and that a copy be filed with the Clerk to the Board of McDowell County Commissioners.

This Declaration shall become effective at 5pm on August 16, 2021 until rescinded pursuant to NCGS 166A-19.22(c).

**DECLARED** this the 16<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2021.

Attest:

  
Cheryl L. Mitchell  
Clerk to the Board



  
Tony G. Brown, Chairman  
McDowell County Board of Commissioners