EXECUTIVE ORDER PROCLAIMING A DISASTER TO EXIST IN FALLON AND PETROLEUM COUNTIES, THE CITY OF BAKER AND THE TOWN OF WINNETT

WHEREAS, severe thunderstorms impacted Petroleum County and the Town of Winnett on June 9, 2016, and continued with an EF-3 tornado in Fallon County and The City of Baker on June 11, 2016;

WHEREAS, the tornado destroyed at least eleven homes and damaged another thirty homes, destroyed two public park buildings, damaged other park facilities and deposited a significant amount of hazardous debris into Baker Lake;

WHEREAS, The Petroleum County Courthouse sustained major damage due to the hail and strong winds;

WHEREAS, city and county personnel in both areas worked long hours starting June 9 and through the following weeks clearing debris from public streets, buildings, and public property;

WHEREAS, Fallon and Petroleum Counties and the City of Baker and Town of Winnett have committed and exhausted all available resources to reduce the hazards and restore necessary services to their residents, have formally declared a disaster to exist and have formally requested financial assistance from the State;

WHEREAS, the conditions in Fallon County and the City of Baker are so severe that a State Declaration is needed to request a Presidential Disaster for Fallon County; and

WHEREAS, these conditions authorize the Governor under Section 10-3-312 (1), MCA, to expend funds from the general fund to meet contingencies arising from the disaster.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, STEVE BULLOCK, Governor of the State of Montana, pursuant to the authority vested in me as Governor under the Constitution of the State of Montana, Title 10, Chapter 3, MCA, and under other applicable statutes, do hereby declare that a state of disaster exists in Fallon and Petroleum Counties, the City of Baker, and the Town of Winnett, as defined in Sections 10-3-103 (3) and 10-3-303, MCA.
This order is effective June 9, 2016.

GIVEN under my hand and the GREAT SEAL of the State of Montana this ______ day of July, 2016.

STEVE BULLOCK, Governor

ATTEST:

LINDA MCCULLOCH, Secretary of State