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Local Disaster Emergency Proclaimed for Nemaha Co.

(KMZA)-- A state of local disaster emergency has been proclaimed for Nemaha County following last week's tornado that struck in the Bern area.

The Nemaha County Commission on Monday adopted and signed a resolution proclaiming the local disaster emergency.

County Emergency Preparedness Director Todd Swart presented the resolution to Commissioners for their approval, which will be sent to the Kansas Division of Emergency Management.

The proclamation allows the county to seek state assistance, if needed, to help with cleanup efforts. However, Swart told commissioners he's not sure if the county will qualify for assistance through FEMA.

Several homes and outbuildings were destroyed in the Bern area last Tuesday night after an EF3 tornado, with an estimated wind speed of 140 miles an hour, touched down about 4 miles west of Bern, leaving a path of damage stretching around 7 miles.

Brown County Commission Chairman Keith Olsen last week signed a similar proclamation for Brown County after a tornado struck in the southern portion of the county the same night.

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