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**LANE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
**NEWS RELEASE**



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**DATE / TIME OF RELEASE:** January 6, 2017; 10:00 a.m.

**NATURE OF STORY:** FEMA to Review \$9.4 Million in Ice Storm Damages

**DETAILS:**

The Oregon Office of Emergency Management and FEMA will be in town next Tuesday, January 10 to review ice storm damages sustained by utilities, municipalities and special districts during the December 14 -17 ice storm. Meetings are being scheduled just as another ice storm is forecasted for this weekend. Each storm event will be evaluated independently and damages from both storms will *not* be combined.

Lane County Emergency Management has scheduled appointments on behalf of the following agencies for review of their damage estimates:

Springfield Utility Board	\$ 300,647
Lane Electric Cooperative	\$1,209,500
EWEB	\$4,177,800
EPUD	\$ 832,085
Lane County Public Works	\$1,150,000
City of Springfield	\$ 125,000
City of Eugene	\$1,180,343
Willamalane Park District	\$ 192,309
University of Oregon	\$ 240,000
4J Schools	\$ 40,000
Rainbow Water District	\$ 3,400
	<b>\$9,451,084</b>

The damage estimates are a good indicator of the severity of the storm impacts. As a next step in the process of the Local Emergency declared by the County Commissioners on December 16, Lane County will be pursuing a Presidential Disaster Declaration with assistance from the State and FEMA. A declaration would make eligible costs 75% reimbursable by the federal government and thereby provide significant economic stabilization. Since Lane County was the only Oregon county hit with ice during the storm, the onus is on Lane County to meet both a County threshold (roughly \$1.3 million) and State threshold (roughly \$5.6 million) for damages to be eligible for federal assistance. Lane County is unique from other Oregon counties in that all utilities are publicly owned making them eligible for federal assistance; nearly all other utilities throughout the state are privately owned. Other counties found the storm event unremarkable in terms of capability to

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**respond. Josephine County is the only other county to be included in the potential Presidential Disaster Declaration.**

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