

RESOLUTION 2026 – 18

A RESOLUTION DECLARING A FIRE DANGER EMERGENCY IN CURRY COUNTY

WHEREAS, Curry County, along with other counties in Eastern New Mexico and West Texas, have experienced a prolonged lack of significant moisture; and,

WHEREAS, Curry County has determined, based upon current drought and fire weather indices published by the National Weather Service for one week prior to this date, as well as moisture predictions for the next thirty-five (35) days, regarding the lack of rain and drought conditions in Curry County, that there is serious likelihood of fire danger in Curry County; and,

WHEREAS, Curry County has experienced grass fires and is aware that adjacent and/or adjoining counties have also experienced grass fires, which pose a serious danger to the public welfare; and,

WHEREAS, on June 28, 2016, the Curry County Board of County Commissioners adopted Ordinance Number 2016-03 which, among other things, established provisions for declaring a fire danger emergency, the result of which is to prohibit open fires and authorize mitigation efforts by various County officials; and,

WHEREAS, based on a consideration of current weather conditions, and other indices as required of Ordinance Number 2016-03, Curry County believes that a fire danger emergency exists and the emergency provisions set forth in Ordinance Number 2016-03 need to be implemented.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners of Curry County, which is the governing body of Curry County, pursuant to its powers under §4-37-1, et. seq. to provide for the safety, preserve the health, promote the prosperity, and improve the moral, order, comfort and convenience of Curry County do hereby declare a fire danger emergency due to drought and wildland fire conditions in Curry County; and,

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that from this day forward, until otherwise modified or rescinded, that all open fires in Curry County shall be banned throughout the unincorporated areas of Curry County and the provisions of Curry County Ordinance 2016-03 are in effect. This ban shall prohibit any person from having, causing, starting, igniting and/or using an open flame outside of a building, structure, automobile or other enclosed area anywhere, throughout the unincorporated portions of Curry County, except as set forth herein:

1. Those landowners that find it necessary to burn off crop stubble or other vegetation must first contact the Clovis Dispatch Center at 575-769-1921 and providing the exact location of any such proposed burn and provide the contact phone number of owner/person conducting said burn.

The Curry County Sheriff or any authorized peace officer, the Curry County Road Superintendent, the Curry County Fire Services Director, and/or any volunteer fire department Chiefs, upon observing the private property where the fire is proposed to be burned, may determine that said fire poses a real and present risk of uncontrolled fire and, may deny the individual the right to burn on the date and at the time requested.

2. Landowners are encouraged to work with the Curry County Sheriff's Office and local fire departments to not burn on windy days or under other conditions that might cause an unnecessary or unwanted spread of the fire.
3. Residents who have a New Mexico Environmental Department approved incinerator, shall burn trash on those days and at those times when the wind blows less than fifteen (15) miles per hour.
4. Residents may use propane and charcoal barbecue grills provided that grills contain a lid or cover.
5. Should residents have any questions or need any additional information, please contact your local area Fire Chief and/or the Curry County Fire Services Director.

The Board of County Commission must renew this Resolution every forty-five (45) days. If this Resolution is not renewed within the designated timeframe, then it is hereby automatically terminated. In addition, the Board of Curry County Commission may terminate and rescind this Resolution at any appropriate time.

Any person charged with a violation of this Resolution shall be cited into Court and, shall be subjected to the violations and penalties set forth in Section 6 of Curry County Ordinance Number 2016-03.

This Resolution shall be enforced by any Curry County Sheriff's Deputy, or any State certified law enforcement officer.

Any person who violates this Resolution or, may be found guilty of a violation of this Resolution, in addition to the above cited penalties, shall also be responsible and liable for any costs, expenses or damages caused by any fire that may be created or started as a result of said violation. In addition, said person shall also be responsible and be required to reimburse the County for the full cost of any and all labor or equipment use required to attend to or necessary to control, contain and/or suppress any fires caused thereby.

Passed and adopted this 10th day of March, 2026

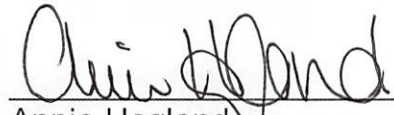
BOARD OF CURRY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Brad Bender, Curry County Commission Chair



Attest to:



Annie Hogland
Curry County Clerk