

**GUNNISON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
June 17, 2021**

The June 17, 2021 meeting was held in the Board of County Commissioners’ meeting room located at 200 E. Virginia Avenue, Gunnison, Colorado. Present, either in person or via Zoom, were:

Jonathan Houck, Chairperson	Marlene Crosby, Deputy County Manager
Roland Mason, Commissioner [ABSENT]	Matthew Birnie, County Manager [ABSENT]
Liz Smith, Commissioner	Melanie Bollig, Clerk to the Board
	Other Persons Present as Listed in Text

**GUNNISON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING:**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairperson Houck called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

**Resolution Implementing Stage 1 Fire Restrictions in the Upper Crystal River Valley of Gunnison County:** Chairperson Houck reminded those attending in person or joining via Zoom that Gunnison County was geographically large and diverse, with the northern part of Gunnison County in a different watershed, connected to the White River National Forest and BLM lands.

Chairperson Houck thanked Sheriff Gallowich for his attendance, and asked him if there were any further recommendation to add to this resolution. Based on the information the Sheriff had gathered earlier, he then added his support of going to Stage 1 Fire restriction. Commissioner Smith also added her support.

With no further discussion, it was **moved** by Chairperson Houck, seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve Resolution 2021-15; A Resolution Implementing Stage 1 Fire Restrictions in a certain part of Gunnison County which was clearly delineated within the resolution, but would be generally referred to here as the northern part of Gunnison County which is in the Colorado River watershed. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairperson Houck then noted that the Fire Council continued to meet weekly with urgency; the Sheriff’s Office was connected to this, as well as Emergency Management; and the County Attorney’s Office knew that the opportunity for more of the restrictions was very possibly forthcoming. Chairperson Houck expressed his appreciation for the diligence of these offices and the County’s partners in monitoring the situation and assured them that the BOCC would be available to be as nimble as possible in authorizing any actions needed. He added that the Board was also working on another resolution to streamline that authority to make sure they could act as quickly as possible to implement fire restrictions when necessary.

**ADJOURN: Moved** by Chairperson Houck, seconded by Commissioner Smith to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 4:05 pm.

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Jonathan Houck, Chairperson

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Roland Mason, Vice-Chairperson [ABSENT]

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Liz Smith, Commissioner

Minutes Prepared By:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Melanie Bollig, Deputy County Clerk

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kathy Simillion, County Clerk

**GUNNISON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TEXT INCLUSION INTO MINUTES**

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF GUNNISON, COLORADO  
RESOLUTION 2021-15**

**A RESOLUTION IMPLEMENTING STAGE 1 FIRE RESTRICTIONS**

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Gunnison, Colorado ("Board") may adopt ordinances to ban open fires and impose fire restriction stages within those portions of the unincorporated areas of Gunnison County ("County") where the danger of wildfire is found to be high, pursuant to C.R.S. § 30-15-401(1)(n.5); and

WHEREAS, the Board is authorized to prohibit the sale, use, and possession of fireworks, including permissible fireworks, within those portions of the unincorporated areas of the County, pursuant to C.R.S. § 30-15-401(1)(n.7); and

WHEREAS, the Board previously has adopted Ordinance No. 8 a., An Ordinance Establishing a Permanent Process to Periodically Ban Open Fires Within the Unincorporated Areas of Gunnison County, Colorado; and has adopted Ordinance No. 14, An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 8 Establishing a Permanent Process to Periodically Ban Open Fires Within the Unincorporated Areas of Gunnison County, Colorado; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the statutory powers granted to the Board as well as Ordinance No. 8 a. and Ordinance No. 14, the Board has power at any meeting, by resolution, to ban open fires to a degree and in a manner that the Board deems necessary to reduce the danger of wildfires within those portions of the unincorporated areas of Gunnison County where the danger of forest or grass fires is found to be high based on competent evidence; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that currently the danger of forest or grass fires in that portion of Gunnison County within the Sopris Ranger District in the White River National Forest, is high at this time and fire restrictions are necessary and appropriate in that portion of Gunnison County within the Sopris Ranger District in the White River National Forest, to reduce the danger of wildfires in Gunnison County.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is resolved that as of 12:01 a.m. local time on June 18, 2021, Stage 1 Fire Restrictions, as defined below, will be in place in the portion of Gunnison County within the Sopris Ranger District in the White River National Forest, and remains in effect until December 31, 2021 or until rescinded, whichever event occurs first.

The following activities are prohibited in Stage 1 Fire Restrictions:

1. Building, maintaining, attending, or using a fire, campfire or stove fire except within a permanent constructed fire grate in a developed campground, developed recreation site, or improved site.
2. Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, or a developed recreation site or while stopped in an area at least three feet (3') in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable materials.
3. The use of fireworks pursuant to C.R.S. §30-15-401(1)(n.7).

This Resolution has immediate effect upon its passage by the Board of Commissioners without further action necessary.

INTRODUCED by Commissioner Houck, seconded by Commissioner Smith, and adopted this 17<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2021.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF THE COUNTY OF GUNNISON, COLORADO

Houck – yes, Mason – absent, Smith – yes.