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LARAMIE COUNTY CLERK BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AGENDA ITEM PROCESSING FORM

1. DATE OF PROPOSED ACTION: May 1, 2012

2. AGENDA ITEM: ☐ Appointments ☐ Bids/Purchases ☐ Claims

☐ Contracts/agreements/leases ☐ Grants ☐ Land Use: Variances/Board App/Plats

☐ Proclamations ☐ Public Hearings/Rules & Reg's ☐ Reports & Public Petitions

X Resolutions ☐ Other:

3. DEPARTMENT: Laramie County Fire Warden

APPLICANT: Bill McHenry


ENT:

4. DESCRIPTION: Consideration of Imposing a Partial Burn Ban for Laramie County.

Amount: From

5. DOCUMENTATION: 1 Original and (3) three copies

RECEIVED AND APPROVED AS
TO FORM ONLY BY THE
LARAMIE COUNTY ATTORNEY



Commissioner

Clerks Use Only:

Signatures

Humphrey_____

Woodhouse_____

Thompson_____

Action_____

Postponed/Tabled_____

Co Attny _____

Assist Co Attny _____

Grants Manager_____

Outside Agency_____

RESOLUTION # 120501-11

**“RESOLUTION IMPOSING PARTIAL CLOSURE OF LARAMIE COUNTY AS A
RESULT OF EXTREME FIRE DANGER”**

WHEREAS, pursuant to W.S. § 35-9-301 the Laramie County Board of County Commissioners has the power to order the imposition of restrictions on or prohibit designated activities within the confines of Laramie County in order to limit the use of fire or fire hazard;

WHEREAS, Laramie County, Wyoming has experienced significant fuel loading resulting in high to extreme fire danger due the presence of excessive amounts of flammable materials; and the presence of seasonal ambient temperatures that have contributed to Red Flag Warnings and Fire Weather Watches; wild-land fires are expected to impact available suppression resources; and

WHEREAS, Laramie County Fire Warden has recommended to the Laramie County Board of County Commissioners that a partial closure of all of Laramie County to forms of fire and fire hazards is necessary due to the fire danger; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF LARAMIE COUNTY, WYOMING, that the discharge of fireworks and all outdoor fires are hereby prohibited in Laramie County in all unincorporated areas pursuant to W.S. § 35-9-301, § 35-10-208 and Chapter 9 of the Rules and Regulations of the State of Wyoming Board of Land Commissioners, except at the designated “Fireworks Shoot Site” established at West College Drive from June 30 through July 4, 2012. To wit:

1) As of 8:00 A.M. on May 4, 2012, all outdoor fires are prohibited in Laramie County except as provided below. This prohibition shall continue until rescinded by the Laramie County Board of Commissioners.

2) That the following rules shall govern the unincorporated areas of Laramie County, Wyoming:

- i) Camp fires are permitted if contained within an established fire ring at an established campground.
- ii) Charcoal fires within enclosed grills are permitted.
- iii) Use of acetylene cutting torches or electric arc welders in cleared areas ten feet in radius is permitted.
- iv) Propane used for open fire branding activities in cleared areas ten feet in radius is permitted.
- v) Petroleum fueled stoves, lanterns, or heating devices are only permitted if such devices meet the fire underwriters’ specifications for safety.
- vi) Smoking is prohibited except within enclosed vehicles or buildings, developed recreation sites, or while stopped in an area at least three (3) feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable materials. Cigarettes, cigars, and pipe tobacco must be extinguished and disposed of properly and are prohibited from being thrown from vehicles.
- vii) Internal or external combustion engines including chainsaws, ATV’s and motorcycles shall have approved spark arrestors.
- viii) Use of chainsaws is permitted, if it has a proper spark arrestor, and a shovel and pressurized fire extinguisher are present at the site.
- ix) Trash or refuse fires between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m., inside a container provided with a spark arrester and located within a cleared area ten feet in radius, are permitted, provided that said fires are attended at all times by a competent person.

3) The ban does not include the listed exceptions set forth in Wyoming Statute 35-10-204 or the areas within the incorporated cities or towns within Laramie County that may be more restrictive.

C. J. Warden
Attorney

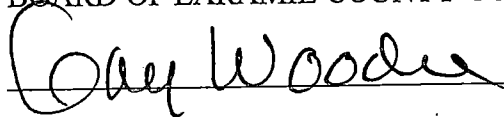
COPY OF RECORD

4) The County Fire Warden shall immediately provide a copy of this Resolution to the County Sheriff, State Land Commission, Bureau of Land Management and State Forester.

5) The County Fire Warden shall notify the public through advertisement in the newspaper, by press release to the Radio and TV Stations broadcasting within Laramie County, by the Public Alert system or any other method that would economically notify the public.

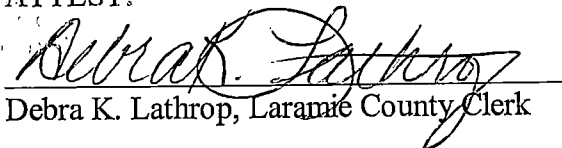
PRESENTED, READ AND ADOPTED this 1st day of May, 2012.

BOARD OF LARAMIE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Gay Woodhouse, Chairman

ATTEST:



Debra K. Lathrop, Laramie County Clerk

Reviewed and approved as to form:

Mark Voss, Laramie County Attorney



**CHEYENNE / LARAMIE COUNTY
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

Emergency Management • Fire Warden
Rob Cleveland, Director • Bill McHenry, Deputy Director



NEWS RELEASE

*******FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*******

As of 8 A.M. on Friday May 4, 2012, the Laramie County Commissioners have approved imposing a partial burn ban for Laramie County.

Laramie County Residents

As you know, the majority of Laramie County is “high plains grassland”. Due to the limited moisture we receive in the county, grass fires are a danger throughout the year. All residents can take prevention measures to reduce the possibility of an out-of-control grass or other wildland fire by following these prevention steps:

1. Keep all dead grass and vegetation cleared from within 3 feet of your house and structures.
2. Keep all other dry grass within 30 feet of your house and structures mowed short.
3. Keep firewood stacked at least 30 feet from your house and structures.
4. Keep grass/brush cut and cleared in an area at least 15 feet around your LPG tank.

Burning Trash and Refuse:

1. If at all possible, select alternate methods of disposal, such as a solid waste or recycling facility.
2. If you choose to conduct an open or controlled burn, please take the following precautions:
 - a. Utilize a cover over the burn container consisting of **heavy mesh screen with no larger than ¼” openings.**
 - b. Clear the area around the burn container to a **radius of at least 10 feet.**
 - c. Have an **extinguishing media** readily available, such as a fire extinguisher or water hose. Keep a rake and shovel in the area to help control the fire.

- d. If burning on the ground, keep the burn pile small and **under control** at all times. The larger the burn pile is, more area will need to be cleared to prevent radiant heat and sparks from igniting the surrounding area.
- e. **NEVER BURN ANYTHING WHEN WINDY CONDITIONS ARE PRESENT.** Check the weather forecast for the day, and do not burn if weather fronts are expected in the area, or if the relative humidity is 30% or less. A hot, dry and windy day is the worst time to attempt burning. Temperatures usually drop and the relative humidity usually rises in the evening through early morning.
- f. **Always call the non-emergency number for the 911 Center 637-6410 to report a control burn before you start and when you are done.**
- g. **Always monitor the fire and the weather.** Fires must be attended at all times. Make sure the fire is out before you leave it.
- h. Contact your local Fire District for assistance if you have a special situation or need your area evaluated before conducting a burn.

3. The Air Quality Division of the Wyoming DEQ has additional rules (*Smoke Management*) pertaining to open burning. A permit may be required for some situations, and they may be contacted at **777-7391**. Trash and refuse burning is not allowed if a nearby residence is within 500 feet of the “burn barrel” and the smoke will travel toward said residence.

In addition, the DEQ prohibits burning of trade wastes. “Trade wastes shall mean solid, liquid, or gaseous material resulting from construction or the prosecution of any business, trade or industry, or any demolition operation included but not limited to wood, plastics, cartons, grease, oil, chemicals and cinders and **excluding vegetative material and refuse**”.

Discharge (shooting off) fireworks in unincorporated areas of Laramie County is prohibited, except at the designated “Fireworks Shoot Site” located at West College Drive, 1/2 mile east of the I-25 exit in Cheyenne June 30 through July 4, 2012.