

**STATE OF COLORADO
COUNTY OF ROUTT**

**OFFICE OF THE CLERK
June 27, 2018**

County Commissioner Douglas B. Monger, Chair called the special meeting of the Routt County Board of County Commissioners to order. Commissioner Timothy V. Corrigan, Commissioner Cari Hermacinski, and Deputy County Manager Dan Weinheimer were present. Tegan Anderson recorded the meeting and prepared the minutes.

EN RE: EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT / DAVID 'MO' DEMORAT

Doug Scherar, Undersheriff; Mel Stewart, Steamboat Springs Fire Chief; Matt Stensland, Steamboat Pilot; and Paul Hoffman, citizen; were also present.

STAGE 1 FIRE RESTRICTIONS

Commissioner Monger stated that this special meeting has been called for the consideration to approve and authorization of the Chairman's signature on a Declaration enacting Stage 1 Fire Restrictions pursuant to Ordinance No. 2013-002. Mr. DeMorat stated that this request is the result of a weekly monitoring call with the surrounding counties and federal partners regarding the status of the wildfire condition. Each county looks at seven criteria to determine their wildfire danger and once four of those criteria are met it is recommended to enter Stage 1 restrictions. All of the counties on the call will be entering Stage 1 restrictions beginning on Friday, June 29th. Following the call, each of the fire districts in Routt County voted unanimously to recommend entering Stage 1 Fire restrictions as well. The City of Steamboat Springs will enter restrictions Friday, June 29th as well while Yampa and Hayden are considering restrictions.

Mr. DeMorat noted that the fireworks planned for Steamboat Lake will be at the discretion of North Routt Fire Protection District Chief Swinsick. The fireworks are shot off of an island in the middle of the lake.

Commissioner Monger noted that he has some concerns regarding a fire chief approving fireworks when the County would be on the hook if it resulted in a wildfire. Chief Stewart replied that this is something that he has heard discussed philosophically at a recent meeting but no concrete direction was decided upon. Commissioner Monger replied that this is something that needs to be further discussed at some point. Commissioner Hermacinski noted that the entity that is on the hook for the costs should be making the final decision.

Mr. DeMorat discussed the coordination between the entities around the County regarding fire concerns. There has been a lot of cooperation between districts but he can follow up with the County Attorney regarding the Boards concerns.

Mr. DeMorat noted that the four of the seven criteria have been met are as listed:

- 1,000 fuel moistures content is 9% or less below 8,000 feet or 12% or less above 8,000 feet.
- Three day mean energy release component (ERC) is at 90% or above.
- Drought Indicators (Palmer or Drought Outlook).
- Adverse fire weather is predicted to continue Zone 201.

Commissioner Corrigan asked what the procedure is for rescinding the fire restrictions. Mr. DeMorat replied that it is similar to the process of entering the restrictions but in reverse order. Once it is believed that the conditions have changed to be less for a wildfire then the same group would come together and the County Commissioners consider rescinding the restrictions.

MOTION

Commissioner Hermacinski moved to approve and authorize the Chair’s signature on a declaration enacting Stage 1 Fire Restrictions pursuant to Ordinance No. 2013-002.

Commissioner Corrigan seconded; the motion carried 3-0.

No further business coming before the Board, same adjourned sine die.

Kim Bonner, Clerk and Recorder

Douglas B. Monger, Chair

Date