

Unapproved Minutes  
Board of Commissioners of Converse County

The special meeting was called to order on August 27, 2010 at 8:15 a.m. Present were Chair Ed Werner, Commissioners Dave Edwards, Jim Willox and County Clerk Lucile Taylor. Commissioners Mike Colling and Tony Lehner were excused. The meeting was held to implement a partial fire ban based upon the request of Mr. Tom Reed, Converse County Fire Warden.

Mr. Willox moved to approve

**RESOLUTION NO. 08-10**  
**OF**  
**CONVERSE COUNTY, WYOMING**  
**A RESOLUTION IMPOSING A PARTIAL CLOSURE**  
**OF CONVERSE COUNTY, WYOMING DUE TO**  
**EXTREME FIRE DANGER**

**WHEREAS**, the entirety of Converse County, Wyoming, has a high fuel load which may result in a potentially high fire danger throughout the County and the fire danger is aggravated by unrestricted outdoor fires and open fires; and,

**WHEREAS**, because of this extremely high fire danger presently existing in Converse County, the Converse County Fire Warden has recommended to the Converse County Board of Commissioners that the Board order a partial closure of the entirety of Converse County, Wyoming; and,

**WHEREAS**, Section 35-9-301, Wyoming Statutes, 1977, as amended, grants statutory authority to any Board of County Commissioners, within the State of Wyoming, to close or limit the use of any area within its county including, but not limited to the prohibition and/or restrictions of any type of open fire for such period as is deemed necessary and proper, subject to rules promulgated by the Board of Land Commissioners of the State of Wyoming; and,

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 35-9-303, Wyoming Statutes, 1977, as amended, the Board of Land Commissioners have promulgated Rules and Regulations necessary for county fire wardens and boards of county commissioners to carry out the purposes of Sections 35-9-301 through 35-9-304, Wyoming Statutes, 1977, as amended; and, that such rules and regulations, among other things, set forth those uses and restrictions and exceptions pertaining to partial closures; and,

**WHEREAS**, it is deemed necessary and in the best interests of the citizens of Converse County, Wyoming, that the Converse County Board of Commissioners order a partial closure within the boundaries of Converse County, Wyoming, and provide certain exceptions and exemptions to such partial closure order;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CONVERSE COUNTY, WYOMING:**

That the Board of Commissioners of Converse County, Wyoming, make and enter its Order imposing a partial closure within the boundaries of said county, prohibiting and/or restricting the use of open and outdoor fires within the unincorporated areas of this County, as follows:

All outdoor and open fires and the discharge of fireworks within the unincorporated areas of Converse County, Wyoming, are prohibited except as provided below:

1. Gas and charcoal fires within enclosed grills;
2. Use of acetylene cutting torches and/or electric arc welders in cleared areas ten (10) feet in radius;
3. Propane or open fire branding activities in cleared areas ten (10) feet in radius.
4. Trash or refuse fires between the hours of 6:00 P.M. and 6:00 A.M., where such fires are contained inside of containers, are attended, and are provided with spark arresters and located within a cleared area ten (10) feet in radius;
5. Controlled burns for range improvements, but only with the written permission of the County Fire Warden.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the following persons shall be ordered to be exempt from the partial closure prohibition and restrictions: Any federal, state or local officers engaged in fire, emergency and law enforcement activities and any member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force engaged in the performance of an official duty.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the partial closure order is to be effective and in force August 27, 2010 at 12:00 p.m. upon the signing of the Order of Closure made and entered by authority of this Resolution and shall remain in force and effect until rescinded by Order of the Board of Commissioners upon proper showing of evidence, by the County Fire Warden, that the extreme fire danger no longer warrants the closure order.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the use of any area in violation of the Resolution shall be a misdemeanor and shall be punished by a fine of not to exceed one hundred dollars (\$100.00), imprisonment in the county jail not to exceed thirty (30) days or both the fine and imprisonment. Restitution shall also be ordered. Wyoming Statutes, Section 35-9-304.

**APPROVED, PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 27<sup>th</sup> DAY OF AUGUST 2010.**

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, CONVERSE COUNTY, WYOMING /s/ Ed Werner, Chairman; Dave Edwards, Member and Jim Willox, Member. Attest: Lucile K. Taylor, Converse County Clerk.

Mr. Edward seconded. Discussion: Commissioners Mike Colling and Tony Lehner were notified by Chairman Werner of the purpose for this special meeting and concurred with the urgency and the need to adopt the Resolution. Motion carried.

The special meeting adjourned at 8:30 a.m. on August 27, 2010.

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Ed Werner, Chair

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Lucile K. Taylor, Converse County Clerk

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