

**McCurtain County Board of County Commissioners**  
**County-Wide Burn Ban Resolution**

**WHEREAS**, the climate of the State of Oklahoma and McCurtain County is conducive to the development of dry and hazardous burning conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, it is essential that actions be taken to protect the lives and property of the citizens of McCurtain County; and

**WHEREAS**, it is important to conserve the resources of the county and its municipalities; and

**WHEREAS**, The McCurtain County Board of County Commissioners pursuant to the authority granted by section 16-26.B of Title 2 of the Oklahoma Statutes, do hereby proclaim a burn ban and that extreme fire danger exists in McCurtain County. This situation (as defined in Section 16-26. B1.a-d, Title 2, O.S.) has been verified by the McCurtain County Emergency Management Director and a majority of the McCurtain County rural fire chiefs or their designees,

**WHEREAS**, by virtue of this resolution, it is unlawful for any person to set fire to any forest, grass, range, crop or other wildlands, or to build a campfire or bonfire, or to burn trash, rubbish or other material that may cause a forest, grass, range, crop, or other wildlands fire. All outdoor burning in progress at the time of passage of this resolution not otherwise authorized by law in order to be fully extinguished immediately by the property owner or his/her designate. Controlled/prescribed burns or other activities stated herein which have occurred prior to the passage of this resolution and are ongoing at the time of the passage of this resolution shall not be a defense for violation of this resolution. Fireworks are prohibited. The ignition of fireworks regarding both private and public displays, are prohibited for the duration of this burn ban.

**WHEREAS**, exceptions to this fire prohibition and appropriate precautionary measures to be taken are as follows:

**1. FOR EQUIPMENT RELATED TO ROAD CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS:**

A. Equipment which uses propane or other controlled-type burners is generally regarded as safe, however it would be prudent to have a water pumper on standby anytime this equipment is used near a grassy right of way.

**2. WELDING/CUTTING TORCH/GRINDING ACTIVITIES:**

A. When conducted over a non-combustible surface at least 10 feet by 10 feet and when welding blankets or screens are used to cover flammable vegetation; and

B. Wind speeds must be less than 20 mph: and

C. A fire watcher, other than the welder, is posted at the welding/cutting torch site with a pressurized water or fire extinguisher.

**3. CAMPFIRES AND OUTDOOR COOKING:**

A. Outdoor campfires or bonfires are prohibited. LPG and natural gas grills are permitted provided that the activity is conducted over a non-flammable surface and at least five feet from flammable vegetation.

**4. PRESCRIBED BURNS:**

- A. On federal lands are exempt when conducted under the federal prescribed burn rule and regulations.
- B. **Agricultural producers** burning cropland, rangeland, forests or pastures as a preferred method of managing their property **MUST** follow Oklahoma Forestry Service guidelines as outlined in Section 16-26.4, Title 2, O.S.

**WHEREAS**, enforcement of this resolution may be carried out by any law enforcement officer of this State. Any person convicted of violating this resolution shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be subject to a fine of not more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), to imprisonment for not more than one (1) year, or to both fine and imprisonment.

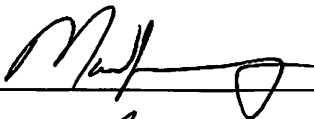
**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of County Commissioners of McCurtain County, Oklahoma made this Burn Ban Resolution for a period not to exceed fourteen (14) days from the date of passage by the Board of County Commissioners, with the possibility of extension on a week-to-week basis to be determined at the Commissioners meeting, and

**WHEREAS**, if extreme fire danger conditions persist, subsequent resolutions may be passed. This Burn Ban may be removed at any time during the fourteen-day period by the same method by which it was approved.

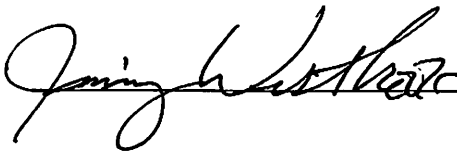
**This Resolution does NOT apply to Federal Land.**

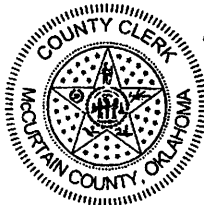
**Adopted** at an open meeting by the Board of McCurtain County Commissioners this 17th day of October, 2022.

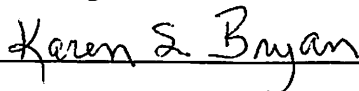
Board of County Commissioners

 Chairman

 Vice Chairman

 Member



 County Clerk