

1. 11:00 A.M. Special Commission Meeting

Documents:

RESOLUTION 21-41 AFFIRMATION OF STAGE 1 FIRE RESTRICTIONS.PDF
RESOLUTION 21-42 AFFIRMATION OF STAGE 2 FIRE RESTRICTIONS.PDF
RESOLUTION 21-43 ARP GRANT MATCHES-CAH EDITS (002).PDF
7-21-2021 SM.PDF

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
CASCADE COUNTY, MONTANA**

**IN THE MATTER OF AFFIRMING THE EMERGENCY
ENACTION OF STAGE 1 FIRE RESTRICTIONS**

RESOLUTION 21-41

WHEREAS, MCA 10-3-402 provides for the Presiding Officer (Chairman) of a county commission to unilaterally make an emergency declaration and MCA 2-3-112 provides that the requirements for public participation and notice do not apply to “an agency decision that must be made to deal with an emergency situation affecting the public health, welfare or safety;” and,

WHEREAS, on July 6, 2021 rapidly deteriorating fire conditions due to low humidity and unusually high temperatures across the county caused the County Fire Warden and the majority of the Rural Fire Chiefs to request Cascade County to move into stage 1 fire restrictions; and,

WHEREAS, all three commissioners concurred with the request of the Fire Warden in the need to take this emergency action; and,

WHEREAS, Commission Chairman Joe Briggs did authorize that Cascade County move into Stage 1 Fire Restrictions as of 12:01 am on July 7, 2021; and,

WHEREAS, the Stage 1 Fire Restrictions included the following limitations:

1. Open burning is prohibited.
2. Campfires are allowed ONLY in a developed recreation site or improved site where developed campfire rings are provided.
3. Smoking is permitted ONLY within an enclosed vehicle, inside a building, or in an area where at least three feet in diameter is cleared of all flammable materials.
4. Campers are ONLY allowed to cook using a device that is solely fueled by liquid petroleum or LPG fuels and can be turned on and off.
5. All Fireworks are prohibited. All exploding targets (available for sale to recreational shooters) are also considered a pyrotechnic product and are also prohibited.
6. Persons using charcoal briquettes are allowed ONLY on private property in a “backyard” barbeque located in an area that is barren or cleared of all overhead and surrounding flammable materials within three feet of the device.

WHEREAS, these restrictions were set in place until altered or removed by the Cascade County Commission; and,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Cascade County affirm and ratify the emergency action taken by Chairman Briggs on July 6, 2021 to enact Stage 1 Fire Restrictions within Cascade County.

Passed and adopted this 21st day of July 2021.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
CASCADE COUNTY, MONTANA

Joe Briggs, Chairman

James L. Larson, Commissioner

Don Ryan, Commissioner

Attest

On this 21th day of July 2021, I hereby attest the above-written signatures of the Board of Cascade County Commissioners.

Rina Fontana Moore, Cascade County Clerk and Recorder

* APPROVED AS TO FORM:
Josh Racki, County Attorney

DEPUTY COUNTY ATTORNEY

* THE COUNTY ATTORNEY HAS PROVIDED ADVICE AND APPROVAL OF THE FOREGOING DOCUMENT LANGUAGE ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF CASCADE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, AND NOT ON BEHALF OF OTHER PARTIES OR ENTITIES. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THIS DOCUMENT BY THE COUNTY ATTORNEY WAS CONDUCTED SOLELY FROM A LEGAL PERSPECTIVE AND FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF CASCADE COUNTY. OTHER PARTIES SHOULD NOT RELY ON THIS APPROVAL AND SHOULD SEEK REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY THEIR OWN RESPECTIVE COUNSEL.

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
CASCADE COUNTY, MONTANA**

**IN THE MATTER OF AFFIRMING THE EMERGENCY
ENACTION OF STAGE 2 FIRE RESTRICTIONS**

RESOLUTION 21-42

WHEREAS, MCA 10-3-402 provides for the Presiding Officer (Chairman) of a county commission to unilaterally make an emergency declaration and MCA 2-3-112 provides that the requirements for public participation and notice do not apply to “an agency decision that must be made to deal with an emergency situation affecting the public health, welfare or safety;” and,

WHEREAS, on July 15, 2021 continued deterioration in fire conditions due to low humidity and unusually high temperatures across the county caused the County Fire Warden, the majority of the Rural Fire Chiefs as well as the Chief of the Great Falls Fire Department to request Cascade County to move into stage 2 fire restrictions; and,

WHEREAS, all three commissioners concurred with the request of the Fire Warden in the need to take this emergency action to escalate Cascade County from Stage 1 Fire Restrictions to Stage 2 Fire Restrictions; and,

WHEREAS, Commission Chairman Joe Briggs did authorize that Cascade County move into Stage 2 Fire Restrictions as of 12:01 am on July 16, 2021; and,

WHEREAS, the Stage 2 Fire Restrictions includes the following limitations:

1. Open burning is prohibited including any wood or combustible material in fire pits, rings etc. including private residences
2. Building, maintaining, attending, or using a fire or campfire for any purpose is not allowed including in developed recreation sites or improved areas.
3. Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, or while stopped in an area of at least six feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all combustible material.
4. No Operating a chainsaw or other equipment powered by an internal combustion engine without a USDA or SAE approved spark arresting device properly installed and in proper working order. Blasting or welding is prohibited.
5. Campers are ONLY allowed to cook using a device that is solely fueled by liquid petroleum or LPG fuels and can be turned on and off.
6. All Fireworks are prohibited. All exploding targets (available for sale to recreational shooters) are also considered a pyrotechnic product and are also prohibited.
7. Operating motorized vehicles off designated roads and trails.

8. Persons using charcoal briquettes are allowed ONLY on private property in a “backyard” barbeque located in an area that is barren or cleared of all overhead and surrounding flammable materials within six feet of the device.

WHEREAS, these restrictions were set in place until altered or removed by the Cascade County Commission; and,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Cascade County affirm and ratify the emergency action taken by Chairman Briggs on July 16, 2021 to enact Stage 2 Fire Restrictions within Cascade County.

Passed and adopted this 21st day of July 2021.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
CASCADE COUNTY, MONTANA

Joe Briggs, Chairman

James L. Larson, Commissioner

Don Ryan, Commissioner

Attest

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**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
CASCADE COUNTY, MONTANA**

**IN THE MATTER OF AFFIRMING THE ALLOCATION OF ARP FUNDS FOR USE AS
LOCAL MATCH FOR SUCCESSFUL HOUSE BILL 632 GRANT APPLICATIONS FOR
WATER AND SEWER**

RESOLUTION 21-43

WHEREAS, The US Congress passed and President Biden signed into law “The American Rescue Plan (ARP)” which included a direct allocation of funds to all counties, boroughs and parishes as well as all states and territories in the US; and,

WHEREAS, the Montana legislature passed and Governor Gianforte signed into law “HB 632” which set up a process for water and sewer districts to apply for a portion of the ARP funds allocated to the State of Montana; and,

WHEREAS, HB 632 requires a one to one local match for all State of Montana dollars allocated to water and sewer projects; and,

WHEREAS, the deadline for application to the State of Montana for the first release of these water and sewer grants was midnight on July 15, 2021; and,

WHEREAS, the announced scoring criteria for the grant applications favored grant applications that had already secured their local matching funds; and,

WHEREAS, the Cascade County Commission (Commission) deemed an appropriate use for a portion of the Cascade County ARP Allocation would be to assist our local water and sewer districts in meeting the one for one match requirements of the HB 632 funds; and,

WHEREAS, the Commission convened in a duly noticed meeting on July 14, 2021 to discuss the HB 632 grant process and discuss potential use of Cascade County ARP funds to assist those local sewer and water projects that planned to submit to the state in the July 15, 2021 grant application cycle; and,

WHEREAS, during the discussions of the July 14, 2021 meeting the Commission determined to instruct staff to obtain a copy of each of the water and sewer grant proposals that were going to be submitted during the July 15, 2021 grant round for review by the Board of Cascade County Commissioners prior to their submission; and,

WHEREAS, the Commission recessed the meeting on July 14, 2021 until 3:00 pm on July 15, 2021 in order to obtain the grant documents for review; and,

WHEREAS, the meeting was reconvened on July 15, 2021 at 3:00 pm with Commissioners Ryan and Briggs present. Commissioner Larson was excused from the meeting as he was out of county attending a meeting on behalf of the Board of Cascade County Commission; and,

WHEREAS, six entities presented their applications for review representing seven distinct projects within their water or sewer districts; and,

WHEREAS, Commissioners Ryan and Briggs approved allowing the six entities to affirm to the state, Cascade County’s willingness to supply a specific level of matching funds should the state approve their overall grant proposal; and,

WHEREAS, the specific amounts conditionally approved are as follows:

Gore Hill Water District	\$ 277,250.00	local match from Cascade County ARP funds
Vaughn Water and Sewer	\$ 254,647.50	local match from Cascade County ARP funds
Black Eagle Sewer	\$ 500,000.00	local match from Cascade County ARP funds
Black Eagle Water	\$ 695,765.00	local match from Cascade County ARP funds
Sun Prairie Water	\$ 210,000.00	local match from Cascade County ARP funds
Centerville School	\$ 107673.40	local match from Cascade County ARP funds
Town of Cascade	\$ 136,250.00	local match from Cascade County ARP funds

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Cascade County affirm and ratifies the tentative allocations made on July 15th contingent on the State of Montana’s awarding of the competitive grant proposed in the applications.

Passed and adopted this 21st day of July 2021.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
CASCADE COUNTY, MONTANA

Joe Briggs, Chairman

James L. Larson, Commissioner

Don Ryan, Commissioner

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Cascade County
Special Commission Meeting
325 2nd Avenue North, Great Falls, MT
Commission Chambers, Room 105 or via Zoom Webinar
July 21, 2021 @ 11:00 a.m.



The Board of Cascade County Commissioners will be broadcasting the Commission Meeting via Zoom.

Webinar participants must register in advance for the Commission Meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_nxi6amQwQNY5MjT8vyRTLg

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

If you need dial in access: 888 788 0099 (Toll Free) or 877 853 5247 (Toll Free) Webinar ID: 847 1687 8025 Passcode: 294396

Please note the Agenda order is tentative and subject to change by the Board without prior notice.

Therefore, members of the public are encouraged to be in attendance at the time the meeting is scheduled to begin.

Public comment during public participation is limited to a maximum seven (7) minutes.

Call to Order

Chairman Joe Briggs

Pledge of Allegiance

1. **Motion to Approve or Disapprove**
Resolution 21-41: A resolution affirming or denying Stage 1 Fire Restrictions.
2. **Motion to Approve or Disapprove**
Resolution 21-42: A resolution affirming or denying Stage 2 Fire Restrictions.
3. **Motion to Approve or Disapprove**
Resolution 21-43: A resolution approving or denying potential American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) allocations for County match on Water and Sewer Properties.
4. **Public comment on any public matter that is not on the meeting agenda, and that is within the Commissioners' jurisdiction. (MCA 2-3-103)**
5. **Adjournment.**