

**Madison County  
Commissioner Meeting Minutes  
July 13, 2021**



**Attendees:**

**Todd Smith, Commissioner (Chairman)**  
**Brent Mendenhall, Commissioner was excused**  
**Douglas Smith, Commissioner**  
**Troy Evans, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney**  
**Kim Muir, County Clerk**

**ACTION ITEMS**

Chief Child presented a Power Point to represent the need for a fire restriction at this time. There have been very few burn bans put in place in his time serving with the Fire Department. This has been an unprecedented year for dry, hot weather. He showed the National Drought index showing the county in dry moderate conditions, but not meeting the average for moisture. Also shown was the Energy Release Component (ERC). The Fire Department pays close attention to the increases happening this year as we are in the 90th percentile. Indices show we are currently just above all time highs in the Moody area and the Pine Creek Pass for drought conditions. With all of the fires in the area, equipment and manpower is severely restricted. Island Park is also above approaching all time highs for fire danger. The Department is looking at what is going on around us and seeing red flags everywhere.

Chief Child reports the smoke is currently is coming from the Bootleg fire in Oregon, as well as fires in western Idaho and eastern Oregon. Precipitation and temperature outlook for the next 6 – 10 days remains above average heat, combined with gusty wind is a grim outlook for fires. Teton, Fremont and Bonneville have put burn ban restrictions in place with other surrounding entities considering restrictions.

Questions were taken from those present and answered.

Indices say fire restrictions should be put in place. The July 24th Holiday was discussed and a ban to only include unincorporated areas of the county. Mayor Merrill can see the wisdom in this, but questions if there is as much burn potential in the City. Chief Child comments there is burn potential in the City and does not exclude the Cities. Rexburg is no safer than adjoining properties.

Commissioner Doug Smith made a motion to sign and approve the Madison County burn ban , Ordinance #444, beginning today and lasting through September 30, 2021 with restrictions listed in Ordinance. Commissioner Todd Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

There being no further business Commissioner Todd Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:10 p.m. Commissioner Doug Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Approved:

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Todd Smith, Commission Chairman

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Douglas Smith, Commissioner

Attest:

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Kim Muir, County Clerk