



**TORRANCE COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
RESOLUTION NO. R 2020- 20**

**A RESOLUTION DECLARING A FIRE DANGER EMERGENCY AND PROHIBITING
ALL OPEN FIRES**

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of Torrance County has obtained information and forecasts from the National Weather Service as well as the United States Forest Service and New Mexico State Forestry Division concerning drought conditions, and ongoing critical fire weather; and,

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 Pandemic has increased the stress on available resources to respond to any fire incident; and

WHEREAS, there is an unacceptable risk to first responders and the public due to any response during the COVID-19 Pandemic because of the close proximity of responders and of the public who may be housed in temporary or emergency shelters; and


WHEREAS, the County Manager recommends to the Board of County Commissioners that a Fire Danger Emergency exists due to dry conditions and the threat to the health, safety, and welfare of the public, should a fire event happen during the COVID-19 emergency.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Torrance County Commission hereby declares a "Fire Danger Emergency" as defined by and under the authority of Torrance County Ordinance 87-2 Section 5B. All open fires are prohibited for the duration of the COVID-19 emergency. This restriction does not apply to ceremonial, barbecuing, heating in fireplaces, and warming at construction sites as defined by Ordinance 87-2 Section 4D, (2) through (6).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Improper Handling of Fire is prohibited criminally under Section 30-17-1, NMSA 1978.


DONE THIS 27TH DAY OF MAY, 2020.

APPROVED AS TO FORM ONLY:


County Attorney Date 5/27/2020

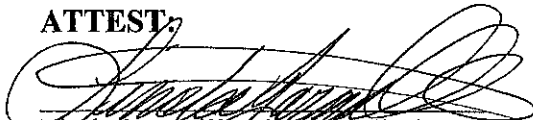
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Ryan Schwebach, Chair


Javier Sanchez, Vice Chair


Kevin McCall, Member

ATTEST:


Linda Jaramilla, County Clerk

Date: 5/27/2020

