

**COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
POST OFFICE BOX 1529  
LAKE CITY, FLORIDA 32056-1529

**COLUMBIA COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLEX**  
372 WEST DUVAL STREET  
LAKE CITY, FLORIDA 32055

**AGENDA**

**May 4, 2017**

**5:30 P.M.**

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**Commissioner Phillips Addition:**

- (1) Resolution 2017R-12 - A Resolution of The Board of County Commissioners For Columbia County, Florida, Declaring of A State of General Emergency and Temporarily Banning Certain Burning Activities**

**RESOLUTION 2017R-12**  
**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA, DECLARING OF A STATE OF**  
**GENERAL EMERGENCY AND TEMPORARILY BANNING CERTAIN**  
**BURNING ACTIVITIES**

WHEREAS, on April 11, 2017, the Governor of the State of Florida issued Executive Order Number 17-120 declaring a state of emergency throughout the State of Florida due to the existence of significant drought conditions and wildfire activity throughout the state;

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor, abnormally dry conditions continue to exist across Florida and these conditions are likely to worsen over the next several weeks;

WHEREAS, multiple Florida counties have recently experienced wildfire activity;

WHEREAS, the Governor finds that lives and property statewide are now threatened by the imminent danger of wildfires that may start up at once in many different locations;

WHEREAS, Florida Division of Forestry resources are currently deployed in assistance of other locations statewide presently experiencing wildfire activity, and there would be minimal Florida Division of Forestry resources immediately available to assist Columbia County in a large wildfire event;

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Columbia County concludes that an imminent threat is posed by the statewide drought conditions and potential for wildfires;

WHEREAS, this condition has the capacity to pose a significant, imminent, and dangerous threat to the health, safety, and welfare of the inhabitants of Columbia County, Florida, visitors and tourists in Columbia County, Florida, as well as their real and personal property;

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 252.38, Florida Statutes, County Code section 46-72, and its broad powers granted under the Home Rule Charter for Columbia County, Florida, the Board of County Commissioners may declare a state of general emergency relating to high risk of fires caused by extremely dry drought conditions, and may further issue any order necessary for the protection of the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Columbia County while in that state of general emergency.

NOW THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners of Columbia County, Florida, hereby finds, orders and declares:

1. That the above recitals are true and correct, and are hereby incorporated by reference.

That a state of general emergency now exists in Columbia County, Florida, and shall remain effective for so long as Executive Order 17-120 as issued by the Governor of the State of Florida shall remain in force and effect.

2. In accordance with the emergency power vested in the County pursuant to Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, and in reliance upon the recitals set forth above, it is hereby ordered that, during this state of local emergency and any extensions thereof, the following acts are prohibited within the corporate limits of Columbia County, Florida:
  - a. Use or discharge of items listed in Florida Statutes section 791.01(4) (fireworks) using explosive or combustible compounds (excluding such uses by the Columbia County School District and auto burglar alarms used for their intended purpose);
  - b. Use or discharge of flares;
  - c. The use of outdoor burning devices (excluding attended and monitored barbeque/cooking equipment); and
  - d. Any otherwise lawful outdoor burning, such as lawn, debris, or trash burning.
3. Permits for commercial or agricultural burning may be issued by the Division of Forestry, or their designees, on a case-by-case basis only after an on-site inspection is made and it is determined there will be sufficient fire suppression equipment and personnel on-site.
4. Campfires may be permitted within designated recreational areas only, pursuant to applicable regulations and guidelines. Controlled burning for fuel reduction or fire suppression purposes by authorized emergency response agencies is expressly excluded from this ban.
5. This Order shall be effective countywide unless any order otherwise is in conflict.
6. If any provision of this Order is invalidated by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect the remaining provisions of the Order, which shall continue to have the full force and effect of law.
7. Any person not abiding by this Order shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in Florida Statutes section 775.082 or s. 775.083, all in accordance with Section 252.50, Florida Statutes.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
COLUMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ronald Williams, Chair

**ATTEST:**

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

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P. DeWitt Cason, Clerk

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Joel F. Foreman, County Attorney