

## ORDER OF COMMISSIONERS COURT

Terminating Prohibition of Outdoor Burning Enacted June 28, 2022

The Commissioners Court of Harris County, Texas, met in a special meeting at the Harris County Administration Building in the City of Houston, Texas, on \_\_\_\_\_, with all members present except \_\_\_\_\_

A quorum was present. The Following was transacted:

### **ORDER TERMINATING PROHIBITION, ENACTED JUNE 28, 2022, OF OUTDOOR BURNING IN UNINCORPORATED HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS, DURING DROUGHT CONDITIONS**

Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_ introduced an order and moved that Commissioners Court adopt the order. Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_ seconded the motion for adoption of the order. The motion, carrying with it the adoption of the order, prevailed by the following vote:

Vote of the Court	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Judge Hidalgo	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comm. Ellis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comm. Garcia	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comm. Ramsey, P.E.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comm. Cagle	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The County Judge thereupon announced that the motion had duly and lawfully carried and that the order had been duly and lawfully adopted. The order adopted follows:

#### RECITALS

1. Section 352.081 of the Local Government Code (the "Act") authorizes the commissioners court of a county to prohibit or restrict outdoor burning in the unincorporated areas of the county where drought conditions as defined by the Act have been determined by the Texas Forest Service to exist.
2. As provided in the Act, "drought conditions" means the existence of a long-term deficit of moisture creating atypically serve conditions with increased wildfire occurrence as defined by the Texas Forest Service through the use of the Keetch-Byram Drought Index ("KBDI").

3. Prior to June 28, 2022, the Texas Forest Service determined and notified Harris County that drought conditions existed in Harris County, according to the KBDI. At that time, the KBDI values averaged 657, with a minimum of 567 and a maximum of 714, with an average weekly increase of 13.4 points per day.

4. In accordance with the Act, the Court's Order of June 28, 2022, specified that the Order would remain in full force and effect until the earlier of (1) a determination by the Texas Forest Service, in accordance with the Act, that drought conditions no longer exist within Harris County; or (2) the 90<sup>th</sup> day after the June 28 Order.

5. On August 19, 2022, the KBDI for Harris County was 506 and expected to drop lower due to rain that the National Weather Service had forecasted for Harris County from August 19, 2022, through August 23, 2022. Additionally, the Texas Forest Service has determined that drought conditions no longer exist in Harris County.

**THEREFORE, it is ORDERED, by the Commissioners Court of Harris County, Texas that**

1. The above recitals are true and correct and are made part of this order.

2. Because the Texas Forest Service has determined drought conditions no longer exist in Harris County and in accordance with the language of the June 28, 2022 Order, outdoor burning in the unincorporated areas of Harris County is no longer prohibited.