RESOLUTION 2017-131

LEWIS & CLARK COUNTY EMERGENCY DECLARATION RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, due to hot and dry conditions, the fire danger in Lewis and Clark County is in the very high category and the weather forecasts for Lewis and Clark County indicate little relief from the hot and dry conditions;

WHEREAS, general fire conditions are such that fires may threaten populated areas and evacuations may be required;

WHEREAS, under these volatile conditions, those responding to fire emergencies may need to exercise extraordinary powers granted to them through the Lewis and Clark County Emergency Operations Plan in order to protect lives and property,

WHEREAS, the Board of Lewis and Clark County Commissioners have decided the following response and protective measures are necessary to protect public health, safety, and property; and

WHEREAS, the effect of an emergency proclamation or a disaster declaration is to activate applicable parts of the local or inter-jurisdictional disaster and emergency plan and program and to authorize the furnishing of aid and assistance in accordance with such plans and programs.

NOW, THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that an emergency is hereby declared pursuant to Section 10-3-402, M.C.A., because hot and dry conditions have resulted in the fire danger in Lewis and Clark County being very high.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED

- the Chair of the Lewis and Clark County Board of Commissioners, while also reserving these powers for himself, hereby authorizes the Lewis and Clark County Sheriff to:
 - a. direct and compel the evacuation of all or part of the population from an incident or emergency or disaster area within that political subdivision when necessary for the preservation of life or other disaster mitigation, response, or recovery; and
 - b. control the ingress and egress to and from an incident or emergency or disaster area and the movement of persons within the area.
- 2. Subject to 7-33-2212(4)(a), the authority to control ingress and egress, as provided in subsection (l)(b), includes the authority to close wildland areas to access during periods of extreme fire danger.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution shall be filed with the County Clerk and Recorder and the Montana Disaster and Emergency Services Division in Helena, Montana.

Dated this ____day of September, 2017.

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Susan Good Geise, Chairman

ATTEST:

Paulette DeHart, Clerk of the Board