LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY DECLARATION

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, INDIANA

October 21, 2024

WHEREAS, Montgomery County, Indiana is immediately threatened by a natural disaster-specifically countywide drought conditions, and;

WHEREAS, as of October 21, 2024, we find Montgomery County to be at risk of widespread fire hazards because of the ongoing drought conditions and;

WHEREAS, a countywide burn ban affecting certain activities is an appropriate public safety response to the fire hazards presented by the current drought conditions;

NOW THEREFORE, the acting principal executive officer of the Montgomery County Board of Commissioners, declares, pursuant to the provisions of IC 10-14-3-29, that a state of emergency exists in the County and that it is hereby invoked and declared those portions of the Indiana Code which are applicable to the conditions and have caused the issuance of this declaration, to be in full force and effect in the County for the exercise of all necessary emergency authority for protection of the lives and property of the people of Montgomery County.

It is also declared that, effective immediately, the following activities are prohibited in Montgomery County.

- 1. Campfires and other recreational fires, unless enclosed in a fire ring with dimensions of 23 inches in diameter X 10 inches high or larger;
- 2. Open burning of any kind using conventional fuel such as wood, or other combustible matter, with the exception of grills fueled by charcoal briquettes or propane;
- 3. The burning of debris, such as timber for vegetation, including such debris that results from building construction activities and any other open-air fires, including the use of fireworks;

Burning will be allowed in burn barrels with a $^{1}/4$ " mesh top from dawn to dusk only. All burning must be monitored

Reference is hereby made to all appropriate laws, statutes, ordinances, and resolutions and particularly to Section 10-14-3-29 of the Indiana Code.

All public office and employees of Montgomery County are hereby directed to exercise the utmost diligence in the discharge of duties, required of them for the duration of the emergency and in execution of emergency laws, regulations, and directives whether state or local.

All residents are called upon and directed to comply with necessary emergency measures to cooperate with public officials and Emergency Management forces in executing emergency plans and to obey and comply with the lawful directions of properly identified officers. A person who knowingly, intentionally, or recklessly violates this Order commits a Class B infraction.

This Declaration will remain in effect until October 28, 2024 unless it is continued or renewed by a majority of the Board of the Montgomery County Commissioners.

In Witness Whereof, the acting principal executive officer of the Montgomery County Commissioners has hereunto set his hand this 21st day of October, 2024.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

Jim Fulwider, Commissioner