

RESOLUTION NO. 30-2013

**RESOLUTION OF INTENTION TO ADOPT THE MADISON COUNTY, MONTANA
COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLAN AND INCLUDE IT BY REFERENCE IN THE
MADISON COUNTY GROWTH POLICY 2012 UPDATE**

WHEREAS, the Madison County Strategic Wildland Fire Plan, the first community wildfire protection plan for Madison County, was completed in December 2003; and

WHEREAS, in 2009, the Montana Legislature passed Senate Bill 131 requiring local governments to include analyses and regulations for wildfire hazard areas in their growth policies and subdivision regulations; and

WHEREAS, the need for community wildfire risk assessments and prioritization of hazardous fuels funding was further highlighted in Section 503 of the Federal Land Assistance, Management and Enhancement (FLAME) Act of 2009, and

WHEREAS, the FLAME Act resulted in the development in March 2011 of "A National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy" that calls for engaging the public for community – based wildfire planning and mitigation; and

WHEREAS, the process to update the community wildfire protection plan began in 2012, using a planning committee with representatives from Madison County Department of Emergency Management, Madison County Planning Department, Madison Valley Rural Fire District, Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Montana Disaster and Emergency Services, US Bureau of Land Management, US Forest Service – Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, supplemented with additional participants including local fire agencies through the Madison County Fire Chief Council to provide direction and guidance throughout the update process; and

WHEREAS, the CWPP is intended to reduce the risk of a catastrophic wildland urban interface (WUI) fire event in Madison County by providing guidance to first responders, local officials, state and federal agencies, residents and property owners on the wildland fire hazard, mitigation strategies, and management priorities; and

WHEREAS, as a planning tool for the county, the CWPP may also assist in the development of future plans and regulations as they relate to growth in the wildland urban interface; and

WHEREAS, the CWPP may also aid economic development of forest products through fuel reduction and mitigation efforts; and

WHEREAS, the public was invited to participate in developing the plan, including an advertised community meeting held on July 18, 2012; and

WHEREAS, the draft Madison County, Montana, Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) was the subject of a joint meeting of the Local Emergency Planning Committee and Madison County Planning Board held on July 29, 2013; and

WHEREAS, the Local Emergency Planning Committee and Madison County Planning Board held a joint public hearing on the CWPP on August 26, 2012, at which no individuals commented on the CWPP; and

WHEREAS, the Madison County Planning Board and Local Emergency Planning Committee considered the recommendations and suggestions elicited at the public hearing; and

WHEREAS, after due consideration of public comment the Local Emergency Planning Committee unanimously endorses the adoption of the Community Wildfire Protection Plan; and

WHEREAS, the CWPP was not complete when the Madison County Growth Policy Update 2012 was adopted in March 2013; and

WHEREAS, after due consideration, the Madison County Planning Board adopted Planning Board Resolution 2-2013 recommending adoption of the Community Wildfire Protection Plan and its inclusion by reference in the Madison County Growth Policy 2012 Update; and

WHEREAS, 76-1-604, MCA authorizes the Madison County Board of Commissioners to adopt, adopt with revisions, or reject a proposed growth policy after first adopting a resolution

of intention to adopt, adopt with revisions, or reject the proposed growth policy or any of its parts; and

WHEREAS, the Madison County Board of Commissioners has reviewed the proposed Madison County, Montana Community Wildfire Protection Plan (attached);

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Madison County Board of Commissioners hereby:

- (a) Adopts this Resolution of Intention to Adopt the Madison County, Montana Community Wildfire Protection Plan and Include It By Reference in the Madison County Growth Policy Update 2012; and
- (b) Schedules a public review and comment period, to culminate in a public hearing at 10:15 a.m., on October 8, 2013, in the Commissioners' Conference Room of the Madison County Courthouse.

Review copies of the revised Madison County Growth Policy document are available at several locations: (1) Madison County Commissioners Office, Madison County Planning Office, and Madison County Department of Emergency Services in Virginia City; (2) public libraries in Ennis, Sheridan, Twin Bridges, and Virginia City; (3) Big Sky Owners Association Office at Big Sky; (4) Meadow Village Fire Station at Big Sky; and (5) Madison County website, www.madison.mt.gov . Copies of the Community Wildfire Protection Plan are also available upon request to the Planning Office, at (406) 843-5250. Written comments on the Growth Policy should be addressed to: Madison County Board of Commissioners, P.O. Box 278, Virginia City, MT 59755. Written comments must be received by close of the October 8, 2013, public hearing.

PASSED and ADOPTED by the Madison County Board of Commissioners this 27th day of August, 2013.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Peggy Kaatz-Stemler
Clerk and Recorder
Madison County

James P. Hart, Chairman

David Schulz

Dan Happel
Board of Commissioners
Madison County

(Please contact the Clerk & Recorders Office for the "Attached" documents