



**MINUTES**  
**WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**Thursday, April 9, 2026, 9:45 AM, Commission Board Room**  
**1331 South Blvd., Chipley, FL 32428**

DISTRICT 1	DISTRICT 2	DISTRICT 3	DISTRICT 4	DISTRICT 5
Ashlynn Marquez Vice-Chairwoman	David Pettis Jr. Chairman	Joey Brock	Wesley Griffin	David Corbin

**1. PROCLAMATION**

1.1 Call to Order - Chairman Pettis

**2. ADOPT THE AGENDA**

Motion to adopt the agenda.

Moved by: Wesley Griffin; seconded by: Joey Brock

**Aye:** David Corbin, David Pettis Jr., Wesley Griffin, Ashlynn Marquez, and Joey Brock

**Carried 5-0**

**3. NON-AGENDA AUDIENCE/PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**4. AGENDA ITEMS**

4.1 Burn Ban Discussion-Justin Barron, Fire Chief

Justin Barron, Fire Chief, informed the board that surrounding communities have already enacted burn bans. Conditions are terrible county-wide.

He went on to speak on the recent Calhoun fire that burned 19 homes and 30/40 additional structures. Washington County Fire partnered with Country Oaks to assist in the fire. Washington County firefighters directly prevented at least 4/5 homes from burning. Many there received vibes of this being Sunny Hills, based on the way that it was set up.

Connie Welch, Emergency Management Director, informed the board that yesterday FDEM sent out a statewide notice regarding drought conditions and urged residents not to burn.

Justin Barron suggested that the upcoming document that would give the chairman and vice-chairman the power to enact a burn ban is a great idea. The recommendation today is for the board to enact a burn ban.

Chairman Pettis questioned whether, the language at a point in time, when the conditions improve based on the recommendation from the chief or emergency management, the administrator, or the chairman can remove the burn ban without a special meeting.

County Attorney Fuqua agreed to put the language in the resolution per the board's direction.

Justin Barron told the board that, after speaking with Forestry, it is confirmed that they will not issue any kind of permits during a burn ban due to the liability.

Motion to enact a burn ban as recommended.

Moved by: Wesley Griffin; seconded by: Joey Brock

**Aye:** David Corbin, David Pettis Jr., Wesley Griffin, Ashlynn Marquez, and Joey Brock

**Carried 5-0**

## **5. ADJOURN**

Motion to adjourn.

Moved by: Wesley Griffin; seconded by: Ashlynn Marquez

**Aye:** David Corbin, David Pettis Jr., Wesley Griffin, Ashlynn Marquez, and Joey Brock

**Carried 5-0**