

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-021**

**A RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE DECLARATION THAT A DROUGHT  
EMERGENCY EXISTS IN ALL UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF  
HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA AND IMPLEMENTING HERNANDO  
COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. 2025-02.**

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Hernando County, Florida (“Board”) has adopted Ordinance No. 2025-02 setting forth the procedures to follow in the event the Board declares that a drought emergency exists; and,

WHEREAS, due to climatic conditions causing an extreme shortage of rainfall, a spike in the number of brushfires throughout Hernando County and following conversations with several fire departments within the State of Florida, that Fire Chief has determined that a drought emergency exists in the unincorporated areas of Hernando County (“County”); and,

WHEREAS, based upon these observations and analysis, and pursuant to the authority granted him under Ordinance No. 2025-02, the Fire Chief declared a countywide temporary burn ban effective January 8, 2026; and,

WHEREAS, the Board can implement the burn ban provisions of Ordinance No. 2025-02 by adopting a resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Hernando County, Florida as follows:

**SECTION 1.** The above-stated recitals are hereby incorporated as if fully set forth herein.

**SECTION 2.** Pursuant to Article IV of Ordinance No. 2025-02, the Fire Chief has notified the County Administrator that he has determined the existence of extreme drought conditions in the County.

**SECTION 3.** In accordance with the provisions of Ordinance No. 2025-02 and the Fire Chief’s determination, the Board finds that an emergency drought condition exists in the County, ratifies the Fire Chief’s declaration of a temporary burn ban and implements the provisions of Ordinance No. 2025-02 *nunc pro tunc* to January 8, 2026.

**SECTION 4.** This resolution shall remain in full force and effect until the Board by like resolution determines that emergency drought conditions no longer exist in the County.

ADOPTED in Regular Session this 29<sup>th</sup> day of January 2026.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA

ATTEST:

*Heidi Brause, Deputy Clerk*

DOUGLAS A. CHORVAT, JR.  
Clerk of Court & Comptroller



*Jerry Campbell*  
JERRY CAMPBELL  
Chairman

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency:

*Michael Cowan*  
County Attorney's Office