

**WEST BENTON REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY
AMENDED RESOLUTION 2019-4**

RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE VOTERS OF WEST BENTON REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY A PROPOSITION AUTHORIZING THE FIRE AUTHORITY TO LEVY REGULAR PROPERTY TAXES IN EXCESS OF THE LIMITATIONS OF RCW 84.55.010 AND SETTING FORTH THE TEXT OF THE BALLOT PROPOSITION

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF WEST BENTON REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY (HEREINAFTER "FIRE AUTHORITY") PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF WEST BENTON REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY AT AN ELECTION TO BE HELD WITHIN THE FIRE AUTHORITY ON AUGUST 6, 2019, OF A PROPOSITION AUTHORIZING THE LEVY OF A PROPERTY TAX NOT TO EXCEED \$1.30 PER \$1,000.00 OF TRUE AND ASSESSED VALUATION SUBJECT TO OTHERWISE APPLICABLE STATUTORY LIMITATIONS.

Background: WHEREAS, it is the judgment of the Board of Commissioners of the Fire Authority that it is essential and necessary for the protection of the health and life of the residents of the Fire Authority that fire and emergency medical services be provided by the Fire Authority. The accelerated demands for, and increasing costs of, providing these services will necessitate the expenditure of revenues for maintenance, operations and equipment in excess of those which can be provided by the Fire Authority 's regular tax revenue levied at the current rate of \$0.8789 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation of taxable property within the Fire Authority.

Whereas the Board of Commissioners has determined that it is in the best interests of the Fire Authority that the maximum allowable levy authorized by this Resolution serve as the levy base for purposes of applying the limit factor established by RCW 84.55.010 in subsequent years.

Resolution: NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of West Benton Regional Fire Authority, Benton County, Washington as follows:

Section 1. In order to provide fire protection, prevention and emergency medical services in the Fire Authority, it is necessary for the Fire Authority to obtain, operate and maintain emergency fire and medical aid vehicles and facilities staffed by properly trained personnel equipped with suitable fire fighting and emergency medical equipment.

Section 2. In order to provide the revenue adequate to pay the costs of providing adequate life protection services and facilities as described in Section 1 and to assure the continuation of such services, the Fire Authority shall, in accordance with RCW 84.55.050, remove the limitation on regular property taxes imposed by RCW 84.55.010, and levy beginning in 2019 and collect beginning in 2020, pursuant to RCW 52.26.140, a general tax on taxable property within the Fire Authority at a rate of \$1.30 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation subject to otherwise applicable statutory limits.

Section 3. The Fire Authority currently levies a regular property tax at the rate of \$0.8789 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation.

Section 4. The amount levied in 2024 for collection in 2025 shall serve as the Fire Authority's tax levy base for purposes of applying the limit factor established by RCW 84.55.010 in subsequent years.

Section 5. LIMIT FACTOR. In order to provide the revenue adequate to pay the costs of providing adequate life protection services and facilities as described in Section 1 and to maintain reserve funds sufficient to assure the efficient continuation of such services beyond 2019, the Fire Authority has determined that a limit factor of 4% shall be used to determine the actual levy rate, subject to the maximum statutory rate of \$1.50 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation, in 2019 – 2024 for collection in 2020 – 2025. The funds raised under this levy shall not supplant existing funds used for the purposes described in Section 1.

Section 6. There shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the Fire Authority for their ratification or rejection, at the election on August 6, 2019, the question of whether or not the regular property tax levy of the Fire Authority should be increased to \$1.30 per \$1,000.00 of true and assessed valuation in 2019, subject to otherwise applicable statutory limitations in 2019 and be adjusted by a limit factor of 4% for the following five years, subject to otherwise applicable statutory limitations. The Board of Commissioners hereby requests the auditor of Benton County, as ex-officio Supervisor of Elections, to submit the following proposition at the election, in the form of a ballot title substantially as follows:

PROPOSITION NO. 1

West Benton Regional Fire Authority - Board of Commissioners – Proposition Tax Levy for Fire Protection, Prevention and Emergency Medical Services.

The Board of West Benton Regional Fire Authority adopted Amended Resolution 2019-4 concerning a proposition to maintain and adequately fund Fire Authority operations.

This proposition will authorize Fire Authority to increase its regular property tax levy to an amount not to exceed \$1.30 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation for assessment in 2019 and collection in 2020; and authorize setting a limit factor of 4% above the prior year for each of the five succeeding years for fire protection and emergency medical services. 2024 maximum allowable levy for 2025 collection shall serve as base for subsequent levy limitations provided in RCW 84.55.

Should this Proposition be:

Approved

Rejected

Adoption: ADOPTED by the Board of Commissioners of West Benton Regional Fire Authority, Benton County, Washington, at a public meeting of such Board on the 30th day of April, 2019, the following Commissioners being present and voting:



COMMISSIONER



COMMISSIONER



COMMISSIONER

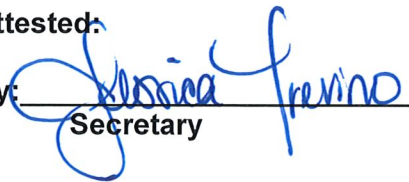


COMMISSIONER



COMMISSIONER

Attested:

By: 

Secretary