RESOLUTION TO SUBMIT A SIX YEAR EMS LEVY
(PRIMARY ELECTION)

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CLARK-COWLITZ FIRE RESCUE PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE DISTRICT AT THE SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD WITHIN THE DISTRICT ON AUGUST 2, 2022 IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE STATE PRIMARY ELECTION TO BE HELD ON THE SAME DATE, OF A PROPOSITION AUTHORIZING AN EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PROPERTY TAX LEVY NOT TO EXCEED $0.50 PER $1,000.00 OF ASSESSED VALUATION, IN ADDITION TO ITS REGULAR PROPERTY TAX LEVY, FOR A PERIOD OF SIX CONSECUTIVE YEARS BEGINNING IN 2022 AND ENDING IN 2027 TO BE COLLECTED IN EACH SUCCEEDING YEAR (2023-2028) TO PROVIDE FUNDS REQUIRED BY THE DISTRICT TO ENABLE THE DISTRICT TO PROVIDE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES.

Background: This measure, if approved by the voters, would establish an EMS levy for six years beginning with a tax levy rate not to exceed $0.50 per $1,000.00 of true and assessed valuation.

It is the judgment of the Board of Commissioners of the District that it is essential and necessary for the protection of the health and life of the residents of the District that emergency medical services be provided by the District. Such services will necessitate the expenditure of revenues for maintenance, operations, equipment and personnel in excess of those which can be provided by the District's regular tax levy for collection over the next six years.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Clark-Cowlitz Fire Rescue, Clark and Cowlitz County, Washington as follows:

Section 1. In order to provide emergency medical services, it is necessary that the District perform the following functions:

1.1. Obtain, operate and maintain emergency medical vehicles and facilities staffed by properly trained emergency medical technicians, paramedics and/or other medically trained personnel.

1.2. Obtain consumable medical supplies and medical appliances to equip such emergency vehicles, personnel, and facilities.

1.3. Establish a level of service as deemed necessary by the Board of Commissioners of the Fire District based on available revenues.

Section 2. In order to provide the revenue adequate to pay the costs of providing emergency medical services and facilities as described in Section 1 and to maintain reserve funds sufficient to assure the continuation of such services, the District shall levy each year for a period of six consecutive years beginning in 2022 and collect each year for a period of six consecutive years, beginning in 2023, a general tax on taxable property within the District, in addition to the regular levy for maintenance and operation costs, in an amount not to exceed $0.50 per $1,000.00 of assessed valuation of such property.

Section 3. In accordance with RCW 84.52.069 the funds raised by such levy shall be used only for the provision of emergency medical services, including related personnel costs, service contract costs, training for such personnel, and related equipment, supplies, vehicles and structures needed for the provision of emergency medical services.

Section 4. There shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the District for their ratification or rejection, at the special election on August 2, 2022 in conjunction with the state primary election to be held on the same date, the question of whether or not such levy for emergency medical services shall be made each year for a period of six consecutive years, the first levy to be made in 2022 and to be collected in 2023. The Board of Commissioners hereby requests the auditors of Clark and Cowlitz Counties, as ex-officio Supervisors of Elections to call such election and to submit the following proposition at such election, in the form of a ballot title substantially as follows:

PROPOSITION NO. 1
Clark-Cowlitz Fire Rescue
Emergency Medical Services Property Tax Levy

Will Clark-Cowlitz Fire Rescue be authorized to fund emergency medical services for its citizens by imposing a regular property tax levy of $0.50 or less per $1,000.00 of assessed valuation for a period of six consecutive years to be collected beginning in 2023?

□ ***Yes***
□ ***No***

Section 5. In accordance with RCW 84.52.069(2), the ballot measure shall require approval of 60% percent of the voters if total number of voters voting exceeds 40% of the voters voting at the preceding general election. If the total number of voters voting do not exceed 40% of the total number of voters voting at the preceding general election, then the number of voters voting "yes" on the proposition must also constitute 60% of a number equal to 40% of the total number of voters voting in the district at the last preceding general election.

Section 6. The Board of Commissioners finds and declares that it is in the best interest of the District to have information regarding the ballot measure included in the local voters' pamphlet. Furthermore, that the appropriate costs thereof shall be paid for by the District. The Board of Commissioners further authorizes and directs the Fire Chief to provide such information to the Clark and Cowlitz County Election Departments for inclusion and to take other actions as necessary to that end.

Section 7. The Board hereby assigns to the Fire Chief or designee the task of appointing members to a committee to advocate voters' approval of the proposition and to a committee to prepare arguments advocating voters' rejection of the proposition.

Section 8. For purposes of receiving notice of any matters related to the ballot title, as provided in RCW 29A.36.080, the Board hereby designates the Fire Chief as the individual to whom the County Auditor shall provide such notice.

Section 9. The Chief is authorized to implement such administrative procedures as may be necessary to carry out the directives of this resolution, including modifying the text of the ballot title and any other text, language and/or descriptions relative thereto necessary to conform such ballot title, text, language and/or descriptions to the intent of the parties, consistent with the objectives of this resolution

Section 10. The Chief, or designee, is hereby authorized and directed, no later than May 13, 2022, to provide to the County Auditor a certified copy of this resolution and the proper District officials are authorized to perform such other duties or take such other actions as are necessary or required by law to the end that the proposition described in this resolution appear on the ballot before the voters at the August 2, 2022 election.

Section 11. If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this resolution is declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this resolution.

Section 12. Any act consistent with the authority and prior to the effective date of this resolution is hereby ratified and affirmed.

Section 13. This resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage.

ADOPTED by the Board of Commissioners of Clark-Cowlitz Fire Rescue at an open public meeting of such Board on the 24th day of March, 2022 the following commissioners being present and voting:

Commissioner Stanley Chunn – Chair	**Commissioner James R Johnson – Vice Chair**
Commissioner Larry Bartel	**Commissioner Ken Ayers**
Commissioner David Town	**Attest: District Secretary**