

JOINT RESOLUTION

CHELAN COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 1  
RESOLUTION NO. 2022-007

DOUGLAS COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 2  
RESOLUTION NO. 04-26-22

A JOINT RESOLUTION of the Board of Commissioners of Chelan County Fire Protection District No. 1 and the Board of Commissioners of Douglas County Fire Protection District No. 2, providing for the submission to qualified electors of Chelan 1 and Douglas 2, at the August 2, 2022 election to be held in conjunction with the State primary election of a proposition that, pursuant to Chapter 52.26 of the Revised Code of Washington, approves a plan to form a regional fire protection service authority within the boundaries of Chelan 1 and Douglas 2, effective September 30, 2022 and providing for other matters properly related thereto.

**RECITALS**

A. Providing an effective fire protection and emergency medical service system requires a collaborative partnership and responsibility among local and regional governments and the private sector.

B. There are efficiencies that can be gained by regional fire protection and emergency medical service delivery, while maintaining local control.

C. Chelan County Fire Protection District No. 1 (“Chelan 1”) and Douglas County Fire Protection District No. 2 (“Douglas 2”) have a long history of a cooperative approach to meeting the needs of their citizens.

D. On March 24, 2022, the Boards of Commissioners of each District formed a Planning Committee to explore the feasibility of forming a regional fire authority and to draft a regional fire authority plan in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 52.26 RCW.

E. The Planning Committee met and prepared a Plan to create the “Wenatchee Valley Fire Department,” and to govern and finance its operation. The Wenatchee Valley Fire Department Plan is being formally approved and adopted by each entity pursuant to this Joint Resolution “the Plan.” A copy of the Plan is attached as **Exhibit A** and incorporated by this reference. Copies are also available from the administrative offices of Chelan 1 and Douglas 2.

F. The authority to form a Regional Fire Protection Service Authority is established by Chapter 52.26 RCW and requires that the voters in the area affected by the Plan must approve the Plan and establish the Regional Fire Protection Service Authority.

G. Therefore, in accordance with the Plan and state law, it is appropriate to place before voters within Chelan 1 and Douglas 2 (the proposed service boundaries of the Wenatchee Valley Fire Department) at an election to be held on August 2, 2022 in conjunction with the State primary election, a proposition calling for the approval of the Plan and the creation of the Wenatchee Valley Fire Department, to be initially funded by a property tax not to exceed \$1.50 per thousand of assessed valuation together with a limit factor of six percent for the following five years in accordance with state law.

NOW THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHELAN COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 1 AND THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF DOUGLAS COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DOUGLAS NO. 2, DO HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

### **RESOLUTION**

#### **SECTION 1. – Adoption of the Plan for the Wenatchee Valley Fire Department.**

The Board of Commissioners of Chelan County Fire Protection District No. 1 and the Board of Commissioners of Douglas County Fire Protection District No. 2 hereby formally adopt the Wenatchee Valley Fire Department Plan, a true and correct copy of which is attached as **Exhibit A** and incorporated by this reference.

**SECTION 2. – Findings of Board of Commissioners of Chelan County Fire Protection District No. 1 and Douglas County Fire Protection District No. 2.** The Board of Commissioners of Chelan County Fire Protection District No. 1 and the Board of Commissioners of Douglas County Fire Protection District No. 2 hereby find that it is in the best interests of Chelan 1 and Douglas 2 to submit to the qualified electors of Chelan 1 and Douglas 2 at the election to be held on August 2, 2022, in conjunction with the State primary election, a proposition to approve the Plan and to create the Wenatchee Valley Fire Department. The Plan authorizes the RFA to be initially funded by a property tax not to exceed \$1.50 per thousand and authorizes use of a six percent growth factor for the following five years, provided that if it is determined that inclusion of the limit factor under RCW 84.55.050(2)(a) is not a valid component of an RFA Plan such provision shall be removed from the Plan and the remainder of the Plan shall remain valid.

If approved by a simple majority of the voters within the boundaries of the proposed Authority voting on the ballot proposition in accordance with RCW 52.26.060, this proposition would create a regional fire protection service authority as provided in chapter 52.26 RCW called the “Wenatchee Valley Fire Department,” with boundaries coextensive with the boundaries of Chelan County Fire Protection District No. 1 and Douglas County Fire Protection District No. 2, effective September 30, 2022, initially funded as set forth in Section 2.

**SECTION 3. - Proposition for Voter Submittal.** There shall be submitted to the qualified electors of Chelan County Fire Protection District No. 1 and Douglas County Fire Protection District No. 2 for their ratification or rejection, at the August 2, 2022 election in conjunction with the State primary election the question of whether or not the Wenatchee Valley Fire Department should be created in accordance with the Plan. The Board of Commissioners of Chelan County Fire Protection District No. 1 and the Board of Commissioners of Douglas County Fire Protection District No. 2 hereby requests the Auditors of Chelan and Douglas Counties, as *ex-officio* Supervisor of Elections, to call such election and to submit to the voters of Chelan County Fire Protection District No. 1 and

Douglas County Fire Protection District No. 2 the following proposition at such election, in the form of a ballot title, pursuant to RCW 52.26.060, as follows:

**CHELAN COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 1  
DOUGLAS COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 2  
PROPOSITION 1**

Chelan County Fire Protection District No. 1 and Douglas County Fire Protection District No. 2 have adopted a Joint Resolution approving the Wenatchee Valley Fire Department Plan (“Plan”) concerning the creation of a Regional Fire Authority.

This proposition would approve the Plan and create the Wenatchee Valley Fire Department, effective September 30, 2022 to provide fire protection and emergency medical services funded by a property tax not to exceed \$1.50 per thousand of assessed value to be levied in 2022, together with a limit factor of six percent for the following five years with the maximum allowable levy in 2027 (collected in 2028) serving as the base for subsequent levy limitations.

Should the Plan to create the Wenatchee Valley Fire Department be approved?

YES        [ ]

NO         [ ]

**SECTION 4. – Authorize Continued Acts of Regional Fire Authority Planning Committee.** The Board of Commissioners of Chelan County Fire Protection District No. 1 and the Board of Commissioners of Douglas County Fire Protection District No. 2 hereby authorize the Regional Fire Authority Planning Committee to continue operating on an as needed basis until the effective date of the Wenatchee Valley Fire Department. The Planning Committee shall function as the governing board for the purposes of carrying out the requirements of Chapter 52.26 RCW until such time as Wenatchee Valley Fire Department governing board is established pursuant to the Plan on September 30, 2022.

**SECTION 5. – Voter Approval Requirement.** Pursuant to RCW 52.26.060, the measure requires a simple majority vote to be approved.

**SECTION 6.** – *Voters Pamphlet.* The Board of Commissioners of Chelan County Fire Protection District No. 1 and the Board of Commissioners of Douglas County Fire Protection District No. 2 find and declare 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 Districts. The Board of Commissioners further authorizes and directs the Fire Chief to provide such information to the County Elections department for inclusion and to take other actions as necessary to that end.

**SECTION 7.** - *Designation of Individuals to Receive Notices re: Ballot Title.* For purposes of receiving notice of any matters related to the ballot title, as provided in RCW 29A.36.080, the Board of Commissioners of Chelan 1 and the Board of Commissioners of Douglas 2 hereby designates the Fire Chief of Chelan 1 as the individual to whom the County Auditor shall provide such notice.

**SECTION 8.-** *Implementation.* The Fire Chief of Chelan 1 is authorized to implement such administrative procedures as may be necessary to carry out the directives of this legislation, including modifying the text of the “Wenatchee Valley Fire Department Plan” and 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. Except potential removal of the lid lift limit factor language from the Plan or Ballot Title, no substantive modifications, to the ballot title, text, language and/or descriptions of any document shall be made without the approval of the Boards of Commissioners of each District.

**SECTION 9.** *Copies Filed with the County Auditors.* The Fire Chief of Chelan 1 or designee, is hereby authorized and directed, no later than May 13, 2022, to provide to the County Auditors certified copies 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 of the proposed Wenatchee Valley Fire Department at the August 2, 2022 election.

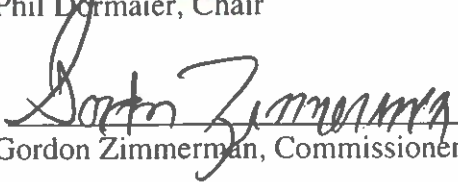
**SECTION 10** - *Severability*. If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this resolution or the Plan is declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this resolution or the Plan.

**SECTION 11**. - *Ratification*. Any act consistent with the authority and prior to the effective date of this resolution is hereby ratified and affirmed.

**SECTION 12**. - *Effective Date*. This resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage.

ADOPTED by the Board of Commissioners of Chelan County Fire Protection District No. 1, Chelan County, Washington, at an open public meeting of such Board on the 26th day of April 2022, the below commissioners being present and voting.

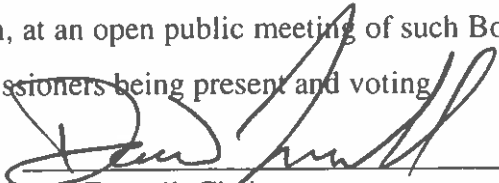
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Phil Dormaier, Chair

  
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Gordon Zimmerman, Commissioner

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Cam de Mestre, Commissioner


ATTEST:   
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Cindy Blaufuss, District Secretary

ADOPTED by the Board of Commissioners of Douglas County Fire Protection District No. 2, Douglas County, Washington, at an open public meeting of such Board on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of April 2022, the below commissioners being present and voting.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dave Fennell, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dan Johnson, Commissioner

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ettore Castellente, Commissioner

ATTEST:   
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Terri Woods, District Secretary