

JUL 14 2014

THURSTON COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 7

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-07-08-01

AT 3:47 AM
BY: AM DEPUTY

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS OF THURSTON COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 7 REQUESTING THAT THE THURSTON COUNTY AUDITOR CALL AN ELECTION FOR THE PURPOSE OF PRESENTING TO THE RESIDENT ELECTORS OF DISTRICT NO. 7 THE QUESTION WHETHER DISTRICT NO. 7 SHOULD MERGE INTO DISTRICT NO. 8.

WHEREAS, Thurston County Fire Protection District No. 7 and Thurston County Fire Protection District No. 8 have a long history of working closely together to provide emergency services due to their proximity and shared geography; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners of Thurston County Fire protection District No. 7 have determined that consolidation into a larger entity provides the most viable approach for making needed improvements to emergency services in Fire District 7; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners of both Districts have jointly developed and adopted an Emergency Services Integration Plan outlining assumptions, benefits, and plans for joining operations as a Merged District; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners of both Districts believe it would be in the best interest of the citizens and residents of each of the two Districts for a merger of the two Districts to be consummated; and

WHEREAS, RCW 52.06 provides a legal mechanism whereby two Fire Protection Districts in the State of Washington may merge under certain terms and conditions, and in accordance with statutory procedures; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners of Thurston County Fire Protection District No. 7 have petitioned for a merger with Thurston County Fire Protection District No. 8; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners of Thurston County Fire Protection District No. 8 agree that the reasons and terms and conditions for the merger, as stated in the Petition, do demonstrate that a merger would be in the best interest of both Districts and their respective citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners of Thurston County Fire Protection District No. 8 have by resolution approved the petition as presented, and have transmitted the petition, together with a copy of District No. 8's resolution of approval to District No. 7; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners of Thurston County Fire Protection District No. 7 believe it would be appropriate to request an election, wherein the question whether to merge with District No. 8 would be presented to the resident electors of District No. 7;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS OF THURSTON COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 7 THAT:

1. The Thurston County Auditor is hereby requested to call an election in Thurston County Fire Protection District No. 7, as specified under RCW 29A.04.330, on the November 2014 general election date, for the purpose of presenting to the resident electors of District No. 7 the following question:

PROPOSITION NO. 1

Shall Thurston County Fire Protection District No. 7 be merged with Thurston County Fire Protection District No. 8?

Yes _____

No _____

2. This Resolution shall be provided to the Thurston County Auditor at the appropriate time.

MOVED AND PASSED AT A REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS FOR THURSTON COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 7 ON JULY 8, 2014 OF WHICH ALL COMMISSIONERS WERE NOTIFIED AND ALL WERE PRESENT AND VOTING.

THURSTON COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 7

Chairman

Commissioner

Commissioner

ATTEST:

District Secretary

Approved as to Form:

Joseph F. Quinn, WSBA No. 6810, Attorney for District No. 7

JUL 14 2014

THURSTON COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 7
RESOLUTION NO. 2014-07-08-02

AT 3:47 AM/PM
BY: [Signature] DEPUT

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS OF THURSTON COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 7, PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE DISTRICT AT AN ELECTION TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 4, 2014, A PROPOSITION WHICH WOULD AUTHORIZE THE LEVY RATE OF \$1.50 PER \$1,000 OF ASSESSED VALUATION NOTWITHSTANDING THE 1% ANNUAL INCREASE IN PROPERTY TAX REVENUE LIMITATION IMPOSED BY CHAPTER 84.55 OF THE REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON, AND USING THE LEVY RATE OF \$1.50 PER \$1,000 OF ASSESSED VALUATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF COMPUTING THE LIMITATIONS FOR SUBSEQUENT LEVIES PURSUANT TO RCW 84.55.050.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS OF THURSTON COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 7, THURSTON COUNTY, WASHINGTON, AS FOLLOWS:

WHEREAS, in the judgment of the Board of Fire Commissioners (the "Board") of Thurston County Fire Protection District No. 7 (the "District"), it is essential for the protection of the public health, safety, life, and property of the citizens and residents of the District that current service levels of fire protection and emergency medical services be improved; and

WHEREAS, the District is currently at a tax rate of \$1.334 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, which is insufficient to keep up with the District's needs; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that a merger with Thurston County Fire Protection District No. 8, South Bay Fire Department (District 8) is the most viable approach for improving emergency services in the District; and

WHEREAS, the terms and conditions of merger accepted by the District 8 Board establishes that the merger shall be contingent on District 7 voter approval of a tax rate of \$1.50 per \$1,000 assessed valuation to assure equality and provide a stronger financial foundation for the merged District; and

WHEREAS, a regular property tax rate of \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, applicable to all taxable property located in the district, is authorized pursuant to RCW 52.16.130, RCW 52.16.140 and RCW 52.16.160; and

WHEREAS, the 1% limit on annual increases is allowed to be exceeded with voter approval which is referred to as a "levy lid lift" election, pursuant to RCW 84.55.050; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners of the District believe the electorate should be given the opportunity to decide whether the full authorized rate of \$1.50 per \$1,000 should be levied, commonly referred to as "lifting the lid" to support the improvement of emergency services either as a stand-alone District or merged with District 8.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, FOUND, DETERMINED AND ORDERED, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. A regular property tax rate of \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, applicable to all taxable property located in the district, is authorized by the foregoing statutes for fire protection districts with at least one paid employee, and is necessary and appropriate to levy, notwithstanding the 1% annual increase limitation of RCW 84.55.010 et seq. RCW 84.55 places a 1% limitation on the increase of tax revenue collected by the District in 2015.

Section 2. The proposal set forth below, if authorized by the qualified electors of the District, will allow a levy rate of \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. There shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the District, for their ratification or rejection, at the general election held in November, 2014, a proposition to exceed the 1% limitation (and "lift the lid") of RCW 84.55.010 et seq. and levy the full authorized rate of \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, subject to statutory and constitutional limits, which are otherwise applicable.

Section 3. The Board hereby requests the Auditor of Thurston County, Washington, as ex officio County Supervisor of Elections, to call and conduct such election to be held within the District on Tuesday, November 4, 2014, and to submit to the qualified electors of the District the proposition in substantially the following form:

PROPOSITION NO. 2

THURSTON COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 7 AUTHORIZING INCREASED PROPERTY TAX LEVY FOR FIRE AND EMS

The Board of Fire Commissioners of Thurston County Fire Protection District No.7 passed Resolution No. 2014-07-08-02 proposing to authorize an increase in the property tax rate. If passed, Proposition No. 2 would permit the District to levy property tax at the rate of \$1.50 per \$1,000 for collection in 2015, notwithstanding statutory 1% limitations on annual increases in property tax revenues, and use the maximum allowable levy in 2014 as the base for subsequent levy limitations as provided by chapter 84.55 RCW.

Shall the foregoing proposition be approved?

Yes

No

Section 4. A notice of election shall be published at least once, which publication shall take place not more than ten (10) days nor less than three (3) days prior to the date of said election. Said publication shall be in a newspaper of general circulation within the District.

Section 5. Approval of the proposition described in Section 3 shall be construed and interpreted as qualified elector approval of a tax increase and "lid lift" in compliance with RCW 84.55 as amended. The dollar amount of the levy so approved shall be used to compute the limitations for subsequent levies provided for by statute.

Section 6. The Secretary to the Board is hereby directed to deliver a certified copy of this resolution to the Auditor of Thurston County, Washington, as ex officio County Supervisor of Elections for the District, no later than August 5, 2014.

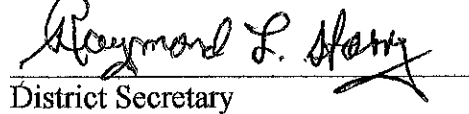
Section 7. With respect to this election, the District shall participate in the publication of information in the Local Voters' Pamphlet, including but not limited to an explanatory statement reviewed and approved by the District's attorney, a Statement For, and a Statement Against, pursuant to Chapter 29.81A of the Revised Code of Washington.

Section 8. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

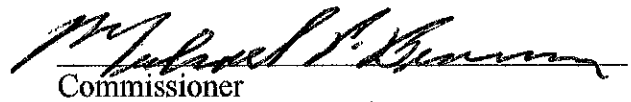
ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the Board of Fire Commissioners of Thurston County Fire Protection District No. 7 on July 8, 2014.

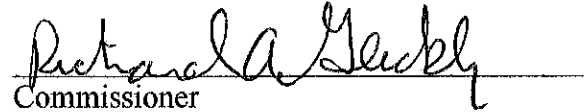
**THURSTON COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION
DISTRICT NO. 7**

Attest:

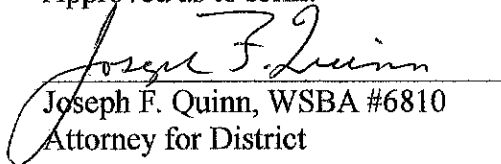

District Secretary


Chairman


Commissioner


Commissioner

Approved as to form:


Joseph F. Quinn, WSBA #6810
Attorney for District