RESOLUTION 2017/04: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A LEVY LID LIFT FUNDING INITIATIVE BE PLACED ON THE NOVEMBER 7, 2017 KITSAP COUNTY BALLOT FOR SUPPORT OF LIBRARY SERVICES.

WHEREAS, pursuant to RCW 84.55.050, the Kitsap County Rural Library District dba Kitsap Regional Library (the “District”), may levy regular property taxes in any calendar year in excess of the limit factor provided for in RCW 84.55.0101 when such levy has been authorized by a proposition approved by a majority of the voters of the District voting on the proposition at a general or special election within the District; and

WHEREAS, the District has determined the current level of funding is not adequate to continue normal operations and address critical maintenance of aging facilities of District and is seeking a solution that would provide stable funding for a minimum of five years; and

WHEREAS, continuing with the current level of funding may require the District to immediately reduce the number of days it publicly operates to five days per week, eliminate bookmobile service and reduce investment in collections; and

WHEREAS, it may also require the closure of one large and one small branch of the District within five years; and

WHEREAS, the District seeks to respond to community needs by providing opportunities and support through early learning and literacy programs for babies and toddlers, afterschool education for K-12, and technology learning for kids, teens and adults with up-to-date computers, Wi-Fi, software and training; and

WHEREAS, the District seeks to restore cut services by reestablishing Sunday hours and investing in collections to increase access; and

WHEREAS, the funds from this levy increase will not contribute to the new construction of a library building in Silverdale, which is being constructed with private fundraising dollars; and

WHEREAS, in order to continue to provide the current level of library service being provided to Kitsap County, it is deemed necessary that the District increase its regular property tax levy rate to $0.43 per $1,000 of assessed value for collection in 2018 and thereafter to use the resulting levy amount for the purpose of computing the limitations for subsequent levies as allowed by RCW 84.55; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees (the “Board”) of the District deems it necessary to submit to the voters of the District the proposition of whether or not the District shall levy regular property taxes for collection in 2018 in excess of the limit factor provided for in chapter 84.55 RCW;
NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE KITSAP COUNTY RURAL LIBRARY DISTRICT HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Board hereby finds and declares that, in order to maintain the current level of library services it is necessary for the District to increase the District’s regular property tax levy, currently $0.35 per $1,000 of assessed valuation, to $0.43 per $1,000 assessed valuation, to be collected in 2018 and thereafter to use the resulting levy amount for the purpose of computing the limitations for subsequent levies as allowed by RCW 84.55. By law, such proposition must be submitted to the voters of the District for their approval or rejection. If such proposition is approved by the requisite number of voters, the District will be authorized to so act.

Section 2. The Board hereby requests the Kitsap County Auditor, Election Division, as ex officio supervisor of elections, to assume jurisdiction of and to call and conduct a special election within the District in conjunction with the general election to be held on November 7, 2017, to submit to the voters of the District such proposition in substantially the following form, with such additions, deletions or modifications as may be required by the Kitsap County Prosecutor:

Kitsap County Rural Library District dba Kitsap Regional Library
Proposition 1
Regular Property Tax Levy Lid Lift for Support of Library Services

The Board of Trustees of Kitsap Regional Library adopted Resolution 2017/04 concerning an increase to its regular property tax levy. This proposition would provide stable funding for the continued operation of public libraries and library services in Kitsap County. The proposition authorizes an increase to the District’s regular property tax levy, currently $0.35 per $1,000 of assessed valuation, to $0.43 per $1,000 of assessed valuation, to be collected in 2018. This levy amount would be used to compute the limitations for subsequent levies as provided by chapter 84.55 RCW. Should this proposition be approved?

Yes

No

Section 3. The Board finds and declares it to be in the best interest of the District to have information regarding the aforesaid proposition included in the local voters’ guide to be prepared by the Kitsap County Elections Division, and authorizes the appropriate costs thereof to be charged to and paid by the District. The Board further authorizes and directs the Library Director to provide such information to the Kitsap County Elections Division and to take such other actions as may be necessary or appropriate to that end.

Section 4. If any one or more of the provisions of this resolution shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions of this resolution, and this resolution shall be construed and enforced as if such unconstitutional or invalid provisions had not been contained herein.
Section 5. The Library Director is hereby authorized and directed to deliver a certified copy of this resolution to the Kitsap County Auditor not later than August 1, 2017.

Section 6. This resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

Adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Kitsap County Rural Library District at an open, public meeting thereof, held this 25th day of July, 2017.

___________________________________
Katie Walters, President and Member

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Terri McKenzie, Vice President and Member

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Jeff Bauman, Member

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Bev Cheney, Member

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Attest:

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Jill Jean, Secretary to the Board of Trustees