



# Resolution Cover Sheet

This form is mandatory and must accompany each resolution.

Name of District: \_\_\_\_\_

District Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Election: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup> Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup> Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Attorney for District: \_\_\_\_\_

Attorney Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Attorney Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Election (levy, bond, lid lift, sales tax, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

Pass/Fail requirement for this measure as determined by your legal counsel: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Simple majority or majority 50% +1 ☐ Supermajority or 60%

Applicable statutory reference as determined by legal counsel: \_\_\_\_\_

Validation requirement as determined by your legal counsel. The minimum number of voters "required" to turnout (cast a ballot) in an excess levy or bond election.

This issue requires validation: ☐ Yes ☐ No

This form must accompany each resolution filed with Lewis County Elections. The contact person or persons should have the authority to do so and be available to answer questions.

**LEWIS COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 15**  
**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-04**  
**RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION OF LEVY**  
**PRIMARY ELECTION**

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF LEWIS COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 15 PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE DISTRICT AT AN ELECTION TO BE HELD WITHIN THE DISTRICT ON AUGUST 3, 2021, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE STATE PRIMARY ELECTION TO BE HELD ON THE SAME DATE, OF A PROPOSITION AUTHORIZING A LEVY OF A PROPERTY TAX NOT TO EXCEED \$1.28 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 District that it is essential and necessary for the protection of the health and life of the residents of the District that the fire and emergency medical services be provided by the District.

WHEREAS, the accelerated demands for, and increasing costs of, providing these services necessitate the continued expenditure of revenues for personnel, operations equipment and facilities at a level that cannot be sustained by the District's regular tax revenue levied at the current rate of \$0.73 per \$1000.00 of assessed valuation of taxable property within the District as constrained by the one percent limit factor established by RCW 84.55.010. Population within the Winlock City limits, alone, show it has grown from 1315 residents, per the 2010 Census, to 1791 per 2019 Census, and this does not count the population in the rural areas of the District. Fire Department staffing has increased from two paid Monday through Friday in 2010 to three full-time, and the number of calls for service from 577 in 2010 to 833 in 2020. The increased call responses create more maintenance costs for vehicles and equipment and higher costs for liability insurance for the District.

WHEREAS, The Board of Commissioners has determined that it is in the best interest of the District 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 Lewis County Fire Protection District No. 15, Lewis County, Washington as follows:

**Section 1.** In order to meet increased call volumes, maintain the level of fire protection, prevention, emergency medical services and the protection of life and property in the District, it is necessary for the District to operate and maintain emergency fire and medical service vehicles and improve station and other capital facilities and to retain properly trained firefighters equipped with proper firefighting and emergency medical equipment.

**Section 2.** In order to provide the revenue adequate to pay the costs of maintaining and providing the services described in Section 1 and to assure the continuation and improvement of such services the District 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 2021 and collect beginning in 2022, pursuant to RCW 52.16.130, RCW 52.16.140 and RCW 52.16.160, a general tax on taxable property within the District at a rate of \$1.28 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation subject to otherwise applicable statutory limits.

**Section 3.** The amount levied in 2021 shall serve as the District's tax levy base for purposes of applying the limit factor established by RCW 84.55.010 in subsequent years.

**Section 4.** There shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the District for their ratification or rejection, at an election on August 3, 2021, in conjunction with the state primary election to be held on the same date, the question of whether or not the regular property tax levy of the District should be restored to \$1.28 per \$1,000.00 of true and assessed valuation, subject to otherwise applicable statutory limitations. The Board of Commissioners hereby requests the auditor of Lewis County, as ex-officio Supervisor 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:

Name of Jurisdiction: Lewis County Fire Protection District No. 15  
Proposition #: Proposition No. 1  
Short Title: Property Tax Levy for Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services.

Ballot Title: The Board of Lewis County Fire Protection District No. 15 adopted Resolution No. 2021-04 concerning a proposition to maintain and adequately fund District operations.

This proposition authorizes the District to establish its regular property tax levy at \$1.28 per \$1,000 of assessed value to be assessed in 2021 and collected in 2022. The funds will maintain and improve fire protection, emergency medical services and facilities, replace apparatus and equipment, and provide for firefighter safety. The maximum allowable levy in 2021 shall serve as the base for subsequent levy limitations as provided by chapter 84.55 RCW.

Should this proposition be:

Approved ☐

Rejected ☐

**Section 5.** Pursuant to RCW 84.55.050(1), the measure requires a simple majority vote to be approved.

**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 County Elections department 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

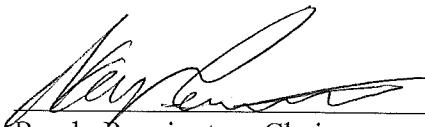
**Section 10.** The Chief, or designee, is hereby authorized and directed, no later than May 14, 2021, to provide to the County Auditor a certified copy of this resolution and the proper District officials are authorized to perform such other duties or take such other actions as are necessary or required by law to the end that the proposition described in this resolution appear on the ballot before the voters at the August 3, 2021 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.

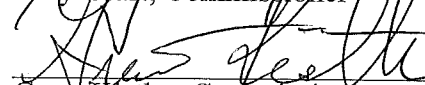
**Section 12.** Any act consistent with the authority and prior to the effective date of this resolution is hereby ratified and affirmed.

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

**Adoption:** ADOPTED by the Board of Commissioners of Lewis County Fire Protection District No. 15 at an open public meeting of such Board on the 26 day of April 2021, the following Commissioners being present and voting:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Randy Pennington, Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jerry Craft, Commissioner

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Grant Kistler, Commissioner

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Samantha Heldreth Secretary



## Lewis County Prosecuting Attorney's Office

345 W. Main Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Chehalis, WA 98532  
Phone: (360) 740-1240  
Fax: (360) 740-1497  
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To: The Auditor's Office  
From: Amber D. Smith, Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney  
Subject: Approval of Ballot Language  
Date: April 22, 2021

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Our office has reviewed the proposed levies for [Lewis County Fire District No. 15](#). The ballot titles and explanatory statements are impartial, written in clear and concise language, avoid the use of legal and technical terms whenever possible, and do not exceed statutory word limits.

Our office approves as to form.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amber D. Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Amber D. Smith  
Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney  
Lewis County Prosecuting Attorney's Office

**It is the Mission of the Lewis County Prosecutor's Office to zealously seek justice in all criminal matters, consistently promote public confidence in the legal system, and diligently represent county government while adhering to the highest ethical and moral standards.**