

Resolution Cover Sheet

This form is mandatory and must accompany each resolution.

Name of District: Lewis County Fire District #2
 District Address: 150 N. Second St. (PO Box 309) Toledo WA 98591
 Date of Election: February 13, 2024
 Contact Person: Bill Moore Title: Chairman
 Contact Phone: 360.304.0372 Email: bmoore.tolfire2@toledotel.com
 2nd Contact Person: Heveline Barra Title: District Secretary
 2nd Contact Phone: 360.751.7117 Email: tolfire2@toledotel.com

Attorney for District: Brian Snure
 Attorney Phone: 206-824-5630 Attorney Email: brian@snurelaw.com

Type of Election (levy, bond, lid lift, sales tax, etc.): Single Year Permanent Levy Lid Lift

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: RCW 84.55.050(1)

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. 2

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-06

**RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION OF LEVY
FEBRUARY ELECTION**

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF LEWIS COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 2 PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE DISTRICT AT AN ELECTION TO BE HELD WITHIN THE DISTRICT ON FEBRUARY 13, 2024, OF A PROPOSITION ESTABLISHING THE LEVY OF A PROPERTY TAX NOT TO EXCEED \$1.25 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 Board of Commissioners has determined that the accelerated demands for, and increasing costs of, providing services will necessitate the expenditure of revenues for improved capital facilities and firefighter safety, additional apparatus, maintenance and operations in excess of those which can be provided by the District's regular tax revenue levied at the current rate of approximately \$.47 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation of taxable property within the District as limited by the 101% limitation.

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. 2 Lewis County, Washington as follows:

Section 1. It is necessary for the District to operate and maintain emergency fire and medical service vehicles, to acquire and improve station and other capital facilities and to retain properly trained personnel equipped with proper fire fighting and emergency medical equipment. The revenues generated by this lid lift will allow the District to cover the gap between inflation and the statutory one percent limit on increases to the Districts' budget to fund apparatus replacement and facility upgrades and to provide for investments in firefighter safety all of which are necessary to maintain and improve the level of fire protection, prevention, emergency medical services and the protection of life and property in the District.

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 one percent limitation on regular property taxes imposed by RCW 84.55.010, and levy beginning in 2024 and collect beginning in 2025, 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 \$1.25 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation subject to otherwise applicable statutory limits.

Section 3. The amount levied in 2024 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 February 13, 2024, the question of whether or not the regular property tax levy of the District should be established at \$1.25 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:

Lewis County Fire Protection District No. 2
Proposition No. 1 Property Tax Levy For Fire Protection
and Emergency Medical Services.

The Board of Lewis County Fire Protection District No. 2 adopted Resolution No. 2023-06 concerning a proposition to maintain and adequately fund District operations.

This proposition would authorize the District to establish its regular property tax levy at \$1.25 per \$1,000 of assessed value to be assessed in 2024 and collected in 2025. The funds will maintain and improve fire protection and emergency medical services, replace apparatus, equipment and facilities and provide for firefighter safety. The maximum allowable levy in 2024 (collected in 2025) 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 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.

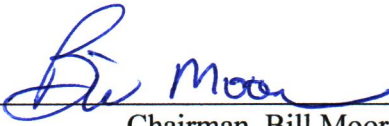
Section 10. The Chief, or designee, is hereby authorized and directed, no later than December 15, 2023, to provide to the County Auditor a certified copy of this resolution and the proper District officials are authorized to perform such other duties or take such other actions as are necessary or required by law to the end that the proposition described in this resolution appear on the ballot before the voters at the February 13, 2024 election.

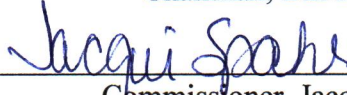
Section 11. If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this resolution is declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this resolution.

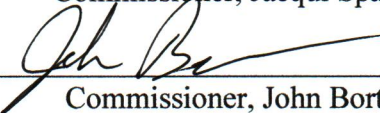
Section 12. Any act consistent with the authority and prior to the effective date of this resolution is hereby ratified and affirmed.

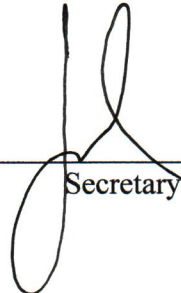
Section 13. This resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage.

Adoption: ADOPTED by the Board of Commissioners of Lewis County Fire Protection District No. 2 (at an open public meeting of such Board on the 22nd day of November, 2023 with the following Commissioners being present and voting:


Chairman, Bill Moore


Commissioner, Jacqui Spahr


Commissioner, John Borte


Secretary Jacqueline Ibarra

Election Date: February 13, 2024

Name of Jurisdiction Submitting Measure: Lewis County Fire Protection District No. 2

Contact Name: Bill Moore

Daytime Contact Phone Number: (360) 304-0372

PROPOSITION NO. 1

BALLOT ISSUE EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

(250 word limit)

Lewis County Fire Protection District No. 2 provides emergency fire protection and medical services to its citizens. The maximum regular levy rate for Washington fire districts is \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value.

Due to the statutory 1% limitation on property tax increases, the Fire District's current levy has dropped to approximately \$.47 per thousand in 2023. If approved by the voters, this proposition will authorize the District to establish its levy rate \$1.25 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2024 for collection in 2025. The dollar amount levied in 2024 shall serve as the District's future tax levy base subject to the statutory 1% limitation.

The District's Board of Commissioners has determined that this proposition is necessary to maintain an effective level of services, fire fighter staffing, equipment and facilities in light of rising costs, rising demands and the continued growth of our community. Approval of this measure will allow the District to maintain the level of fire protection and emergency medical services provided to its citizens.

Prepared by: Brian K. Snure
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