

JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 2023-04-559

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHITE SALMON, WASHINGTON, AND THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF KLICKITAT COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 3, ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE WEST KLICKITAT TASK FORCE TO CONSIDER THE FORMATION OF A REGION FIRE AUTHORITY AS THE PREFERRED FUTURE METHOD OF PROVIDING EMERGENCY SERVICES TO THE WEST KLICKITAT COUNTY REGION AND, THUS, RECOMMENDING THE JOINT DECISION TO PROCEED WITH A REGIONAL FIRE PROTECTION SERVICE AUTHORITY PLANNING COMMITTEE IN ACCORDANCE WITH RCW 52.26;

WHEREAS, the City of White Salmon (“the City”) and Klickitat County Fire Protection District No. 3 (“the District”) have had a cooperative partnership, striving to provide the highest level of fire protection, rescue and emergency medical services to their citizens within the confines of available resources; and

WHEREAS, this cooperative effort began a decade ago and has grown in substance and effectiveness while attempting to provide these services as separate, local government entities with limited funding; and

WHEREAS, the City and the District have been discussing Cooperative Services Opportunities fueled by a jointly crafted and adopted FIRE ACTION PLAN in July of 2022, seeking more effective means and a form of dedicated funding for emergency fire, rescue and emergency medical services efforts.

WHEREAS, in enacting the FIRE ACTION PLAN, both elected bodies agreed to create the “West Klickitat Task Force” to seek input from their constituents and to identify options and make recommendations; and

WHEREAS, after extended deliberations and analysis of agency data, finances and current gaps in emergency services, the West Klickitat Task Force has recommended the formation of a Regional Fire Protection Service Authority in accordance with RCW 52.26 as the best option for funding and governing emergency services in the Greater White Salmon community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of White Salmon, Washington, and the Board of Commissioners of Klickitat County Fire Protection District No. 3, authorize the following:

SECTION 1. – *Findings of White Salmon City Council and Klickitat County Fire Protection District No. 3.*

The City Council of the City of White Salmon Washington and the Board of Commissioners of Klickitat County Fire Protection District No.3 hereby find that it is in the best interests of the City and the District to accept the recommendation of the West Klickitat Task Force and proceed with the process of exploring the formation of a Regional Fire Protection Service Authority.

SECTION 2. - *Creation of West Klickitat County Regional Fire Authority Committee.*

a) By the adoptive action of both entities, the City Council of the City of White Salmon, Washington and the Board of Commissioners of Klickitat County Fire Protection District Number 3 hereby declare the activation and creation of the **West Klickitat Regional Fire Protection Services Authority Planning Committee ("RFA Planning Committee")** in accordance with RCW 52.26 with the assigned mission to develop for review and subsequent adoption of the **West Klickitat RFA Plan** by both elected bodies.

b) Per RCW 52.26.030 the **RFA Planning Committee** shall be populated by three (3) elected City of White Salmon officials [as appointed by the Mayor] and the three (3) sitting members of the Klickitat County Fire Protection District Number 3 Commissioners.

c) Recognizing the shortened time-frame for the construction, review, approval and recommendation to both elected bodies by the West

Klickitat RFA Planning Committee, both White Salmon Volunteer Fire Department and Fire District No. 3 Executive Staffs shall focus all resources to provide the RFA Planning Committee with concise and legally reviewed segments of the West Klickitat RFA Plan in a timely manner to enable finalization within the requirements of the West Klickitat RFA Plan timeline.

SECTION 3. – *Severability.* 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 4. - *Ratification.* Any act consistent with the authority and prior to the effective date of this resolution is hereby ratified and affirmed.

SECTION 5. - *Effective Date.* This resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage.

**CITY OF WHITE SALMON, WA
RESOLUTION 2023-04-559**

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of White Salmon, Washington on this 19th day of April, 2023.

CITY OF WHITE SALMON



Marla Keethler, Mayor

Attest:



Stephanie Porter, City Clerk Treasurer

Approved as to Form:

DocuSigned by:



Shawn MacPherson, City Attorney

**KLICKITAT COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #3
RESOLUTION 2023-09**

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Commissioners of Klickitat County Fire Protection District No. 3, Klickitat County, Washington, at an open public meeting of such Board on the 13th day of April, 2023, the below commissioners being present and voting.


Robert Connor, KCFD3 COMMISSIONER


Thomas Montag, KCFD3 COMMISSIONER


Charles Virts, Jr, KCFD3 COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:


Rozalind Plumb, KCFD3 SECRETARY