

**JOINT RESOLUTION**

**2014-1445 (City of Prosser)**

**2014- 01 (Benton County Fire protection District No. 3)**

**“A JOINT RESOLUTION of the City Council of the City of Prosser, Washington, and the Board of Commissioners of Benton County Fire Protection District No. 3, recommending the joint decision to proceed with a Regional Fire Protection Service Authority (RFA) as the preferred future method of governing a consolidated fire department within each jurisdiction.**

**RECITALS**

**WHEREAS:** The City of Prosser (“the City”) and Benton County Fire Protection District No. 3 (“the Fire District”) have had a cooperative partnership, striving to provide the highest level of fire protection and emergency medical services to their citizens and the community within the confines of available resources. This cooperative partnership began nearly six decades ago as a contractual relationship and culminated many years later with an inter-local agreement in 2002, creating a separate entity (municipal partnership) to provide services funded through contributions from both parties; and

**WHEREAS:** The City and the Fire District have been discussing alternative methods of governing and funding the cooperative partnership and created a Community Level of Service Task Force to identify options and make recommendations; and

**WHEREAS:** The Community Level of Service Task Force has recommended the formation of a Regional Fire Protection Service Authority (RFA) as the best option for funding and governing a consolidated fire department in the future.

**WHEREAS:** The Joint Fire Board, Board of Fire Commissioners and the City Council of the City of Prosser have conducted numerous discussion and deliberations concerning the best governance model to continue the emergency services relationship between the City and the Fire District; and

**WHEREAS:** A Regional Fire Protection Service Authority Planning Committee was created by passage of City of Prosser Resolution Number 09-1269 and by Benton County Fire Protection District Number 3 Resolution Numbers 2008-05 and 2014-2;

**NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PROSSER, WASHINGTON, AND THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF BENTON COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 3, DO HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:**

**RESOLUTION**

**SECTION 1.** – *Findings of Prosser City Council and Benton County Fire Protection District No. 3.* The City Council of the City of Prosser Washington and the Board of Commissioners of Benton County Fire Protection District Number 3 hereby find that it is in the best interests of the City and the District to accept the recommendation of the Community Level of Service Task Force and proceed with the process of exploring the formation of a Regional Fire Protection Service Authority.

**SECTION 2.** - *PFD3 RFA Planning Committee.* The City of Prosser hereby amends Resolution 09-1269 and Benton County Fire Protection District Number 3 hereby amends Resolutions Numbered 2008-05 and 2014-2 all to read consistent with this Resolution. By the adoptive action of both entities, the City Council of the City of

Prosser, Washington and the Board of Commissioners of Benton County Fire Protection District Number 3 hereby declare the activation and creation of the **Prosser Fire District No. 3 Regional Fire Protection Services Authority Planning Committee** (“**Planning Committee**”) in accordance with RCW 52.26 with the assigned mission to develop for review and subsequent adoption, the PFD3 RFA Plan. Said **Planning Committee** shall be populated by the members of the Prosser Fire District Number 3 Joint Fire Board three of whom are elected City Council Members and three of whom are elected Benton County Fire Protection District Commissioners. Any replaced elected official who is appointed to the Prosser Fire District Number Three Joint Fire Board shall also be appointed to the **Planning Committee**.

**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 by both parties.

**SECTION 6.** – *Duplicate Originals.* This resolution shall be executed in duplicate originals one of each to be held by each party.

**ADOPTED** at a regular open public meeting by the City Council this 11<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2014.

CITY OF PROSSER

  
MAYOR PAUL WARDEN

Absent

MAYOR PRO TEM TAYLOR

*Tom Aubrey*

COUNCIL MEMBER AUBREY

*Maxwell*

COUNCIL MEMBER EVERETT

Absent

COUNCIL MEMBER BRUMLEY

*Robert Elder*

COUNCIL MEMBER ELDER

*Frank Becken*

COUNCIL MEMBER BECKEN

*William Hamilton*

COUNCIL MEMBER HAMILTON

Attest:

*Rachel M. Shaw*

RACHEL SHAW, CITY CLERK

Approved as to Form:

*Howard Saxton*

HOWARD SAXTON, CITY ATTORNEY



ADOPTED by the Board of Commissioners of Benton County Fire Protection District No.3, Benton County, Washington, at a regular open public meeting of such Board on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2014, the below commissioners being present and voting.

Randy Fox  
COMMISSIONER

Li B. Stunt  
COMMISSIONER

May E Blum  
COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

Douglas N. Mann  
FIRE CHIEF/ SECRETARY