

LEWIS COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 3

Resolution # 26-04

RE: Reauthorize Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Levy Lid Lift at Primary Election

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF LEWIS COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 3, PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE DISTRICT AT AN ELECTION TO BE HELD WITHIN THE DISTRICT ON AUGUST 4, 2026, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE STATE PRIMARY ELECTION TO BE HELD ON THE SAME DATE, OF A PROPOSITION AUTHORIZING THE DISTRICT TO RESTORE THE DISTRICT'S EMS LEVY TO AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$.50 PER THOUSAND OF TRUE AND ASSESSED VALUATION.

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 Emergency Medical Services be provided by the district. Such services necessitate the expenditure of revenues for maintenance, operations, and equipment.

WHEREAS, in 2020, the voters within the district authorized the district to levy regular property taxes for Emergency Medical Services at the rate of \$.50 per thousand of assessed value on a permanent basis. Due to a variety of factors, the Board of Commissioners has determined that it is in the best interest of the district that the 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.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Lewis County Fire District #3, Lewis County, Washington as follows:

Section 1. To continue providing Emergency Medical Services life support services and ambulance transport. In order to maintain Emergency Medical Service vehicles equipped with proper emergency medical equipment and to retain properly trained personnel certification and continued recertification.

Section 2. In order to provide the revenue adequate to pay the costs of providing adequate life protection services and facilities as described in Section 1 and to maintain reserve funds sufficient to assure the continuation of such services, the district shall, in accordance with RCW 84.55.050, remove the limitation on Emergency Medical Services Levy property taxes imposed by RCW 84.55.010, and levy beginning in 2026 and collect beginning in 2027, pursuant to RCW 84.52.069 an Emergency Medical Services Levy on taxable property within the district at a rate of \$.50 per thousand of assessed valuation subject to otherwise applicable statutory limits.

Section 3. There shall be submitted to the qualified electors of Lewis County Fire Protection District No. 3 for their ratification or rejection, at an election on August 4, 2026, the question of whether or not the Emergency Medical Services tax levy of the district should be restored to \$.50 per thousand of assessed valuation. 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. 3 (Mossyrock & surrounding areas)
Proposition #: Proposition No. 1
Short Title: Emergency Medical Services Levy Lid Lift

Ballot Title: The Board of Commissioners of Lewis County Fire District #3 (Mossyrock & surrounding areas) propose a permanent levy lid lift restoring the previously approved 2020 Emergency Medical Services levy rate. If passed, Proposition 1 would permit the district to restore the Emergency Medical Services levy in 2027, not to exceed \$.50 per thousand of assessed valuation. The funds will maintain and improve Emergency Medical Services. The levy in 2026, shall serve as the base for computing subsequent levy limitations as provided by chapter 84.55 RCW.

Should this Proposition be:

Approved.....

Rejected

Section 4. In accordance with RCW 84.55.050(1), the ballot measure shall require approval of a simple majority of voters to pass.

Section 5. The Board of Commissioners hereby assigns to the Board Chair, 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 6. For purposes of receiving notice of any matters related to the ballot title, as provided in RCW 29A.36.080, the Board of Commissioners hereby designates the Board Chair, or designee, as the individuals to whom the County Auditor shall provide such notice.

Section 7. The Board Chair, or designee, 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.

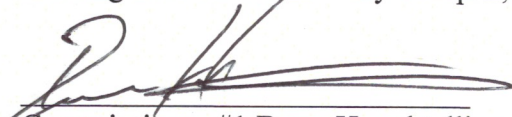
Section 8. The Board Chair, or designee, is hereby authorized and directed, no later than May 1, 2026, to provide to the County Auditor a certified copy of this resolution and the proper District officials are authorized to perform such other duties or take such other actions as are necessary or required by law to the end that the proposition described in this resolution appear on the ballot before the voters at the August 4, 2026 election.

Section 9. 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.

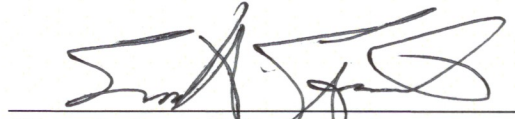
Section 10. Any act consistent with the authority and prior to the effective date of this resolution is hereby ratified and affirmed.

Section 11. This resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage.

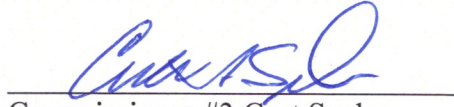
ADOPTED by the Lewis County Fire District #3 Board of Commissioners at an open public meeting held on the 22nd day of April, 2026.



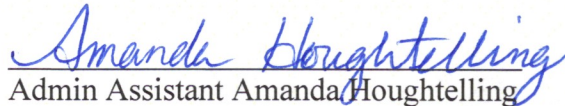
Commissioner #1 Doug Houghtelling



Commissioner #2 Scott Spade



Commissioner #3 Curt Spahn



Admin Assistant Amanda Houghtelling

Election Date: August 4, 2026

Name of Jurisdiction Submitting Measure: Lewis County Fire Protection District No. 3

Contact Name: Bill Edgington

Daytime Contact Phone Number: 360-983-3456

PROPOSITION NO. 1
(Emergency Medical Services Levy Lid Lift)
LEWIS COUNTY BALLOT ISSUE EXPLANATORY STATEMENT
(250 Word Limit)

Lewis County Fire Protection District No. 3 (Mossyrock & surrounding areas) provides emergency fire protection, rescue, and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) to its community. The majority of the communities' needs require Emergency Medical Services & ambulance transport. Such services necessitate expenditure of revenues for maintenance, operations, and equipment.

If approved by the voters, this proposition will permit the district to restore the previously approved 2020 Emergency Medical Services levy rate of \$.50 per thousand of assessed property value. The 2026 levy to be collected in 2027 shall serve as the base for subsequent levy limitations as provided by Chapter 84.55 RCW. If not approved, the district will not be able to fund services at current levels for the community.

The Board of Commissioners has determined that the tax levy and the revenue it will produce is necessary to maintain Emergency Medical Services, ambulance transport, certifications & training, equipment, and facilities and to maintain the protection of life and to enhance public safety. The funds generated by this levy will be used exclusively for emergency medical services.

Prepared by: Brian K. Snure
Attorney for Fire District
(206) 824-5630