COWLITZ 911
Police • Fire • Medical

RESOLUTION 2026-003

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A FISCAL RESERVE POLICY AND REPEALING STABILIZATION RESERVE POLICY #007

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2018, the Cowlitz County Board of Commissioners adopted Cowlitz County Ordinance 18-014 which created the Cowlitz 911 Public Authority and approved an initial Charter; and,

WHEREAS, Cowlitz 911 (the "Authority") is a public corporation organized pursuant to RCW 35.21.730 through 35.21.754; and,

WHEREAS, Cowlitz 911 Public Authority is responsible for maintaining financial stability, continuity of operations, and long-term capital planning necessary to support reliable emergency communications services; and

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes the importance of maintaining fiscal reserves to address operational, financial, emergency, cash-flow, and capital replacement needs; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to establish a comprehensive Fiscal Reserve Policy that identifies reserve categories, planning targets, reserve classifications, authorized uses, replenishment expectations, and annual review requirements; and

WHEREAS, the Fiscal Reserve Policy establishes a Stabilization Reserve planning target equal to twenty-five percent (25%) of annual operating expenditures plus debt service, subject to adjustment by the Board through the annual budget process or other Board action; and

WHEREAS, the Fiscal Reserve Policy establishes Capital Replacement Reserve planning targets for Radio, Equipment and Technology, and Facility needs, and allows capital reserves to be maintained within a consolidated capital replacement fund while continuing to track balances by category; and

WHEREAS, the policy provides that reserve targets are planning tools intended to guide budgeting and long-range financial planning and do not create externally restricted resources or limit the Board's authority to modify reserve levels or uses; and

WHEREAS, adoption of the Fiscal Reserve Policy will repeal and replace Stabilization Reserve Policy #007.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Cowlitz 911 Board of Directors as follows:

Section 1. Adoption of Fiscal Reserve Policy.
The Board hereby adopts the Fiscal Reserve Policy, attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by this reference.

Section 2. Reserve Classification.
Unless otherwise restricted by law, grant requirements, contracts, or separate Board action, reserve balances established under the Fiscal Reserve Policy are intended to be reported as assigned cash and investments for financial reporting purposes.

Section 3. Repeal of Prior Policy.
Upon adoption of this resolution, Stabilization Reserve Policy #007 is hereby repealed and replaced in its entirety by the Fiscal Reserve Policy adopted under this resolution.

Section 4. Implementation.
The Executive Director, Budget Finance Manager, and staff are authorized to take administrative actions necessary to implement the Fiscal Reserve Policy, including incorporating reserve planning targets into the annual budget process and tracking capital reserve balances by category.

Section 5. Effective Date.
This resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

ADOPTED in regular session this 17th day of June, 2026.

COWLITZ 911 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Chair of the Board, Robert Huhta

ATTEST:

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Clerk of the Board, Briana Graham

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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General Counsel

RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL:

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Darr Kirk, Executive Director