

ESTES VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-06

**A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR ESTES VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION
DISTRICT BALLOT ISSUE A
TO ADJUST MILL LEVY RATE**

WHEREAS, the Estes Valley Fire Protection District ("**District**") is a quasi-municipal corporation and political subdivision of the State of Colorado and a duly organized and existing special district pursuant to Title 32, Article 1, C.R.S.; and

WHEREAS, the values and priorities of the District Board of Directors ("**Board**") have previously been documented in the following resolutions:

- 2022-05 – Estes Valley Fire’s Commitment to a Volunteer Model
- 2022-08 – Estes Valley Fire’s Commitment to a Culture of Service
- 2022-09 – Estes Valley Fire’s Commitment to Good Governance
- 2023-02 – Estes Valley Fire’s Commitment to Wildfire Risk Reduction
- 2023-03 – Estes Valley Fire’s Commitment to Fire Prevention; and

WHEREAS, the Estes Valley was protected by a volunteer fire department from 1907 until 2000, and to this day relies on a greater than 90% volunteer force to serve the needs of our community including structure fire prevention planning and response, wildfire prevention planning and response, new construction plan review, other emergency functions; and

WHEREAS, since 2010 the Estes Valley has experienced 20% growth in full time population and a 50% growth in annual visitation, resulting in a 44% increase in District call volume; and

WHEREAS, the District has a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) which describes the high risk for large high-severity wildfires to impact the District, and the need for increased preparation, planning and mitigation work; and

WHEREAS, costs of essential District operational and personal protective equipment, fire apparatus (vehicles), and facility maintenance continue to rise, negatively impact the current District budget; and

WHEREAS, the Board determines that for the District to meet current and future community emergency service needs and to properly train and equip District staff and Volunteers and to maintain safe vehicles and facilities the District must seek additional funding; and

WHEREAS, in order to meet stated current and future needs of the Estes Valley community and the District; the Board has proposed to increase its general operating mill levy rate beginning in tax

collection year 2024; and

WHEREAS, the proposed election Ballot Issue A would provide the following improvements to augment current services offered by the Estes Valley Fire Protection District:

- **Enhancing Emergency Response:** Funds would provide additional resources for our current volunteer members, provide opportunities for expansion of our volunteer fire program, and provide 24/7 staffing to respond to emergencies with minimal delay.
- **Decreasing Wildfire Risk:** Funds would enable the District to provide more assistance to homeowners and HOA's with fuels reduction, outreach and education and increasing firebreaks.
- **Maintaining Existing Facilities, Vehicles, and Equipment:** Funds would enable necessary maintenance of the District's equipment, vehicles and stations to ensure first-responder safety and extend the useful life of the District's assets.
- **Expanding Prevention Capacity:** Funds would enable expansion of fire-prevention programs for commercial and private property to support existing structures and to keep up with new construction.

WHEREAS, the cost of the election Ballot Issue A would be of good value to taxpayers, with an additional 2.9 mills of property tax equivalent to \$101/year for a \$500,000 home (\$8.42/month), \$151/year for a \$750,000 home (\$12.58/month), or \$202/year for a \$1,000,000 home (\$16.83/month); and

WHEREAS, the District adheres to the Colorado Fair Campaign Practices Act, which expressly authorizes local governments to adopt and distribute in normal fashion a Resolution regarding any ballot issue of import to that local government.

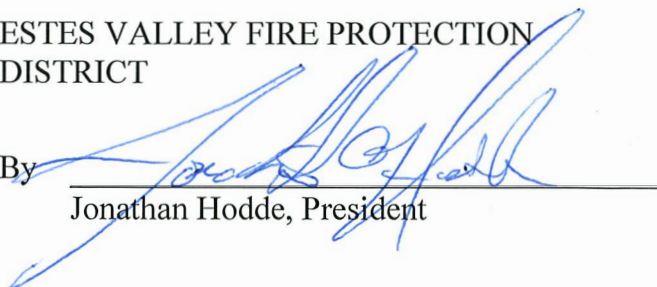
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the District ("**Board**") as follows:

1. Commitment. The Board hereby commits their support for EVFPD Ballot Issue A authorizing the Board to adjust the mill levy rate to increase property tax collections, as will be placed before the voters for a May 2, 2023 decision.
2. Public Necessity. The Board further confirms that in order for the District to continue to provide the high level of service the community expects and meet the growing needs placed on our agency with increased population and visitation, it is vitally important and necessary to seek additional funding.
3. Public Support. The Board urges electors of the District to join in its support by VOTING YES on the Estes Valley Fire Protection District ballot issue A at the May 2, 2023 election.

ADOPTED this 12th day of April 2023

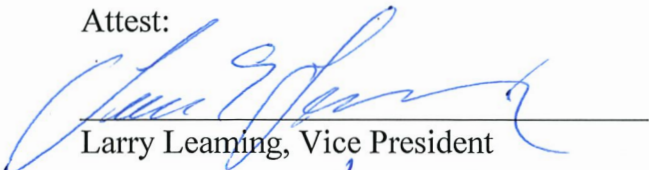
ESTES VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION
DISTRICT

By



Jonathan Hodde, President

Attest:



Larry Leaming, Vice President



David Hamrick, Secretary



Brian Tseng, Treasurer



Ryan-Bross, At Large