

BEFORE THE BOARDS OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR  
CASCADE COUNTY AND LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY

IN RE: RESOLUTION TO INCREASE  
FIRE SERVICE AREA FEE WITHIN THE  
DEARBORN VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE AREA

(TIERED FEE INCREASE)

CASCADE COUNTY RESOLUTION 17-63  
LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY RESOLUTION 2017-59

BE IT RESOLVED by the Boards of County Commissioners for Cascade County and Lewis and Clark County, (the Counties), as follows:

WHEREAS, pursuant to MCA § 7-33-2401, the Counties previously and formally established the Dearborn Fire Service Area; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to MCA § 7-33-2404(3), the Counties shall collect the funds necessary to operate a fire service area by imposing a special assessment on the owners of structures in the fire service area and shall collect the assessments with the general taxes of the county, such assessment being a lien on the property; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to MCA § 7-33-2404(1) and (2), the special assessments of the owners of structures within the above referenced fee service areas were established pursuant to Resolution 06-038 by the Counties at the annual rate of \$75 for each habitable structure to be charged to owners of structures within the respective Fee Service Area that are benefitted by the services offered by the Fire Service Area; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to MCA § 7-33-2404(1) the Counties shall, as necessary after the creation of a fire service area establish a schedule of rates to be charged the owners of habitable structures in the respective Fire Service Area; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees for the Dearborn Fire Service Area voted to request the Counties to approve a fee increase in the amount of \$200 on all habitable structures in the respective Fire Service Area; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees for the Dearborn Fire Service Area has also proposed an alternative tiered fee structure for all habitable structures in the respective Fire Service Area; and

WHEREAS, in support of the requested fee increase, the Counties have received an information packet documenting the basis for the fee increase; and

WHEREAS, based upon MCA § 7-33-2404(1), the Counties have scheduled a Public Hearing (Hearing) for June 22, 2017, at 11:00 a.m. to examine the merit of increasing the rate charged to owners of habitable structures benefitted by the above referenced Fire Service Area from the existing \$75 to \$200 per habitable structure; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to MCA § 7-33-2401(3), the Counties have authorized, directed and caused to be published, in both Cascade County and Lewis and Clark County on June 11, 2017, and June 18, 2017, in accord with MCA § 7-1-2121, a Notice of Public Hearing (Notice); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to MCA § 7-33-2401(3) the Counties, at the Public Hearing have received budgetary justification from the trustees of the Dearborn Fire Service Area for a fee modification and increase, and (i) accepted written protests from property owners within the above referenced Fire Service Area of the proposed increase; and (ii) received general protests and comments relating to the proposed fee increase; and



WHEREAS, at the close of the Public Hearing on June 22, 2017, the Boards of County Commissioners for Cascade County and Lewis and Clark County did request that the trustees of the Dearborn Fire Service Area provide additional budgetary information as well as additional alternative tired fee structure(s) for consideration; and

WHEREAS, to allow time for such additional information to be obtained and reviewed by the Boards of County Commissioners for Cascade County and Lewis and Clark County said Boards unanimously voted to take a fee increase decision under advisement and to reconvene for a public meeting at 6:00 p.m. on July 12, 2017, for further Board discussion of the proposed fee increase; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to MCA § 7-33-2401(3), the Counties, in their discretion and based upon testimony received at the public hearing, may adopt the proposed fee schedule or may establish a different fee schedule than proposed.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Boards of County Commissioners for Cascade County and Lewis and Clark County hereby pass this Resolution to Increase Fire Service Area Fees for the Dearborn Fire Service Area as set forth in the attached Exhibit A.

Passed and adopted this 12<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2017

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
CASCADE COUNTY, MONTANA

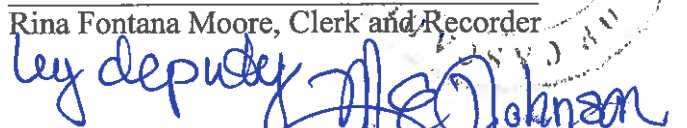

  
James L. Larson, Chairman

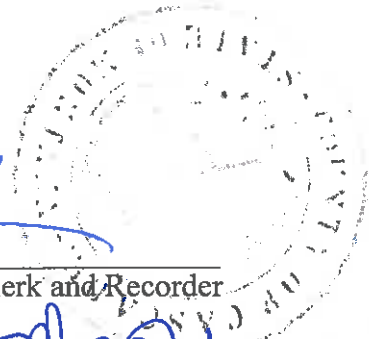
  
Jane Weber, Commissioner

  
Joe Briggs, Commissioner

ATTEST:


  
Rina Fontana Moore, Clerk and Recorder

  
by deputy 



Passed and adopted this 12<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2017

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY, MONTANA

  
Susan Good Geise, Chairman

  
Andy Hunthausen, Commissioner

  
Jim McCormick, Commissioner

ATTEST:

  
Paulette DeHart, Clerk & Recorder/Treasure



**Exhibit A**

**TIERED FEE INCREASE**

	<b>Taxable Value Range</b>	<b>Fire Fee</b>	<b>Total Revenue by Quadrant</b>
<b>Tier 1</b>	\$0-\$675	\$ 90	\$14,490
<b>Tier 2</b>	\$676-\$1,600	\$165	\$31,920
<b>Tier 3</b>	\$1,601-\$2,981	\$185	\$34,225
<b>Tier 4</b>	\$2,982 & above	\$200	\$30,000

**Total Annual Revenue \$111,265 (Estimated)**