

**CASCADE RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
SPECIAL COMMISSIONER'S MEETING MINUTES  
July 10, 2024**

Travis Smith called the special commissioner's meeting of the Valley Countywide EMS District, the Donnelly Rural Fire Protection District, the McCall Fire Protection District, and the Cascade Rural Fire Protection District to order at 6 p.m. at the Donnelly Rural Fire Protection Station at 244 West Roseberry Road.

The following officials were present: Valley Countywide EMS District Commissioners Travis Smith, Greg Irvine, and Ronn Julian, McCall Fire Protection District Commissioners Sadie Noah, Jeremy Olson, and Nick Erikson, Donnelly Rural Fire Protection District Commissioners Clint Swain, Tyler Hlawatschek, and Melissa Maini, Cascade Rural Fire Protection District Commissioners Larry Scarborough, LaDawn Saxton, Mike Arnold, Fire Chief Steven Hull, Emergency Medical Services Director Keri Rueth, and Secretary / Treasurer Pam DeChambeau.

Greg Irvine made a motion to approve the Valley Countywide EMS District Commissioners special joint meeting agenda, and Travis Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried. McCall Fire Protection District approved their joint meeting agenda, Donnelly Rural Fire Protection District approved their joint meeting agenda, and Larry Scarborough made a motion to approve the Cascade Rural Fire Protection District special meeting agenda, and LaDawn Saxton seconded the motion. Motion carried. A motion was made and seconded to authorize Travis Smith, Chair of the Valley Countywide EMS District, to conduct the joint meeting. Motion carried.

Travis Smith requested input from the Fire District Commissioners and Fire Chiefs on how to proceed after the Valley Countywide EMS District permanent levy increase election failed 2,157 to 1,226 for sixty-four percent (64%) in favor. Reported on the ad hoc standing committee work on efficiencies and joint training, and reported on the work of the budget committee. Discussion followed the best ways to reach out and educate the public. Discussion followed on election consulting services. Discussion followed on creating a political action committee, on having an information booth at the Valley County Fair and Rodeo, and on flooding social media with information releases. Discussion followed on whether to hold a permanent levy increase election or a two-year temporary levy increase election in November 2024. Discussion followed on showing the value added to the voter if they vote yes, about establishing a nonresident fee added to the ambulance bill, and about creating video clips with local community members that answer questions and flood all types of media with the clips up to the November 2024 election. Discussed having a consistent message when educating the public. McCall Fire Protection District discussed contributing financially to election consulting services. Discussion followed educating the public about second homeowners paying their fair share of property taxes with no homeowner's exemption and that they are not eligible to vote in Valley County. Greg Irvine made a motion to proceed with the election in November 2024 to increase the tax levy and begin a marketing plan with the decision for a temporary or permanent tax levy increase override postponed to the next meeting, and

Ronn Julian seconded the motion. Motion carried. The Valley Countywide EMS District Commissioners requested a contact person outside the Fire Chief and EMS Director from the McCall, Donnelly, and Cascade fire departments.

There being no further business, the special commissioner's meeting of the Cascade Rural Fire Protection District adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela J. DeChambeau  
Secretary/Treasurer

Approved:



Larry V. Scarborough  
Chairperson