

WHATCOM COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #21

Resolution 2020-07

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF WHATCOM COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #21 REQUESTING FEDERAL SERVICES, EQUIPMENT, SUPPLES, MATERIALS, OR FUNDS MADE AVAILABLE TO THE STATE OF WASHINGTON AND ITS POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS THROUGH MAJOR DISASTER DECLARATION NO. 4481.

WHEREAS, COVID-19, a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death to vulnerable or at-risk populations, is caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which is a new strain of coronavirus that had not been previously identified in humans and can easily spread from person to person;

WHEREAS, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) identifies the potential public health threat posed by COVID-19 both globally and in the United States as “high” and has advised that person-to-person spread of COVID-19 will continue to occur globally, including within the United States;

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services Secretary declared a public health emergency for COVID-19 beginning on January 27, 2020;

WHEREAS, on February 29, 2020, Governor Jay Inslee proclaimed a state of emergency within the State of Washington due to COVID-19;

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national emergency under the Stafford Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq;

WHEREAS, on March 22, 2020, President Donald Trump approved a Major Disaster Declaration (DR-4481) for the State of Washington, which provides the State of Washington with Federal equipment, supplies, facilities, personnel, and other resources for use or distribution to address the COVID-19 health emergency;

WHEREAS, RCW 38.52.100(2) allows “any political subdivision” to receive from the State of Washington any federal services, equipment, supplies, materials, and/or funds made available under the Stafford Act to address the COVID-19 health emergency;

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 civil public health emergency severely impacted Whatcom County Fire Protection District #21 (the “District”) which is outlined in **Exhibit A**; and

WHEREAS, the “District” requires additional equipment, supplies, facilities, personnel, and other resources being provided by the Federal government to address the COVID-19 public health emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Fire Commissioners of The Board of Commissioners of the Whatcom County Fire Protection District No. 21 (the “District”) as follows:

- A. Pursuant to RCW 38.52.100(2), if available, the District requests equipment, supplies, facilities, personnel, and other resources being provided by the Federal government to address the COVID-19 public health emergency.

- B. The Fire Chief is hereby delegated the authority to communicate with the State of Washington on behalf of The Board of Commissioners of the Whatcom County Fire Protection District No. 21 (the “District”) regarding the impact of COVID-19 on the District and to identify such aid, equipment, supplies, facilities, personnel, and other resources which are needed. The Fire Chief is Jason Van der Veen and can be reached by telephone at 360-815-1420 and by email at jvanderveen@nwfrs.com.
- C. A copy of this Resolution shall be provided to the State of Washington.

ATTEST:

Bruce Ansell, Chairman

Rich Bosman, Vice-Chairman

Larry McPhail, Commissioner

John Crawford, Commissioner

Scott Fischer, Commissioner

Jennie Sand, Board Secretary

Jason Van der Veen, Acting Fire Chief

EXHIBIT A

[COVID-19 READINESS ANALYSIS]