



BOARD of COMMISSIONERS

COUNTY OF CARBON • STATE OF MONTANA

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RESOLUTION NO. 2023-18

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SUBMITTING TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE RED LODGE-ROBERTS AMBULANCE DISTRICT, CARBON COUNTY, MONTANA, THE QUESTION REPEALING THE CURRENT \$69 DISTRICT FEE AND TO AUTHORIZE A MILL LEVY OF 22 MILLS FOR THE PURPOSE OF FINANCING EMERGENCY AND NON-EMERGENCY AMBULANCE RESPONSE, EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, AND OTHER EMERGENCY SERVICES BENEFICIAL TO THE CITIZENS OF THE DISTRICT.

This Resolution was introduced by Scott Miller; moved by Commissioner Bill Bullock and seconded by Commissioner Scott Blain. This Resolution was adopted unanimously.

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners (the "Board") of Carbon County, Montana (the "County") is authorized to call an election affecting district funding as a special election pursuant to § 13-1-504(2)(a); and

WHEREAS, the original per parcel fee of \$69 has not kept up with inflation and the costs associated with running the District; and

WHEREAS, replacing the per parcel fee with a mill levy of 22 mills would provide more consistent funding for the district; and

WHEREAS, changing the fee structure of the District to a mill levy assessment in accordance with § 7-11-112; and

WHEREAS, a mill levy of 22 mills would provide funding levels similar to an inflationary increase on the original \$69 fee; and

WHEREAS, a mill levy fee structure will insure commercial properties help fund the District at a level that better reflects their potential impact and use; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 3625 was adopted by the City of Red Lodge and Resolution 2023-2 was adopted by the Town of Bearcreek in support of changing the funding structure of the District from a \$69.00 fee on residential lots/parcel that contain a dwelling unit and on developed commercial property to a property tax of 22 mills on all property except that for all agricultural property having an area greater than 10 acres be levied only on the principal residential property and submitting the question to the voters; and

WHEREAS, on May 11, 2023 the Board adopted Resolution 2023-15 stating their intent to hold an election September 12, 2023 to impose a Mill Levy for the Red Lodge-Roberts Ambulance District and to Repeal the Per Lot Ambulance Fee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board as follows:

1. The Board hereby calls and directs a special mail ballot county election be held on September 12, 2023, for the purpose of voting on the following question:

Shall the voters of the Red Lodge Roberts Ambulance District authorize a change in the funding structure of the district by repealing the fee of **\$69.00** on residential lots/parcels that contain a dwelling unit and on developed commercial properties and authorize a permanent mill levy of 22 mils or approximately \$390,000, except that for all agricultural property having an area greater than 10 acres, the mils be levied only on the principal residential dwelling, if any, on the property.

Funds are used for the provision of both emergency and non-emergency ambulance response, emergency medical services, and other emergency services beneficial to the citizens of the district.

Fiscal impact

Repeal the current \$69.00 fee.

The fiscal impact of 22 mils on a home valued at \$100,000 would be approximately \$29.70 and on a home valued at \$200,000 would be approximately \$59.40.

2. Conduct of Election. All qualified electors of the Red Lodge Roberts Ambulance District shall be entitled to vote in the special election. The Carbon County Election Administrator is hereby requested and authorized to give proper notice of the close of registration and thereafter prepare printed lists of the electors in the County entitled to vote in the election in the County and to conduct the election in the form and manner prescribed by law.

3. Notice of Election. The Election Administrator is hereby authorized and requested to cause notice of the call and holding of the election to be given by publishing notice at least two times no earlier than 40 days and no later than 10 days before the election in the Carbon County News, a newspaper of general circulation in the County. The notice of election as published shall read substantially as follows:

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION
Carbon County, Montana
June 22, 2023

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the Board of County Commissioners (the "Board") of Carbon County, Montana (the "County"), that pursuant to a certain resolution duly adopted at a regular meeting of the Board on June 13, 2023, a mail ballot special election of the registered voters of the County will be held on September 12, 2023, for the purpose of voting on the following question:

Shall the voters of the Red Lodge Roberts Ambulance District authorize a change in the funding structure of the district by repealing the fee of **\$69.00** on residential lots/parcels that contain a dwelling unit and on developed commercial properties and authorize a permanent mill levy of 22 mils or approximately \$390,000, except that for all agricultural property having an area greater than 10 acres, the mils be levied only on the principal residential dwelling, if any, on the property.

Funds are used for the provision of both emergency and non-emergency ambulance response, emergency medical services and other emergency services beneficial to the citizens of the district.

Fiscal impact

Repeal the current \$69.00 fee.

The fiscal impact of 22 mils on a home valued at \$100,000 would be approximately \$29.70 and on a home valued at \$200,000 would be approximately \$59.40.

The special election shall be by mail ballot and shall be conducted by the office of the County Election Administrator, Carbon County, 17 West 11th Street, Red Lodge, Montana, 59068.

County Clerk and Recorder

Publish: August 3, 2023
August 10, 2023

4. Ballots. The Election Administrator is hereby requested to prepare suitable ballots for use at the election at the polling places, together with the precinct lists.

5. Form of Ballot. The ballot shall be printed in substantially the following form:

OFFICIAL BALLOT
CARBON COUNTY, MONTANA
RED LODGE-ROBERTS AMBULANCE DISTRICT ELECTION
September 12, 2023

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS: Make an X or similar mark in the vacant square before the words "YES, repeal \$69 Fee and impose a 22 Mill Levy" if you wish to vote in favor of the funding structure change; if you are opposed to the funding structure change, make an X or similar mark in the vacant square before the words "NO, retain the \$69 Fee and do not impose a 22 Mill Levy."

Shall the voters of the Red Lodge Roberts Ambulance District authorize a change in the funding structure of the district by repealing the fee of **\$69.00** on residential lots/parcels that contain a dwelling unit and on developed commercial properties and authorize a permanent mill levy of 22 mils or approximately \$390,000, except that for all agricultural property having an area greater than 10 acres, the mils be levied only on the principal residential dwelling, if any, on the property.

Funds are used for the provision of both emergency and non-emergency ambulance response, emergency medical services, and other emergency services beneficial to the citizens of the district.

Fiscal impact

Repeal the current \$69.00 fee.

The fiscal impact of 22 mils on a home valued at \$100,000 would be approximately \$29.70 and on a home valued at \$200,000 would be approximately \$59.40

YES, repeal \$69 Fee and impose a 22 Mill Levy

NO, retain the \$69 Fee and do not impose a 22 Mill Levy

6. Notice to County Election Administrator. A copy of this resolution will be provided to the Election Administrator as soon as possible after its adoption and approval, and no later than June 16, 2023, in order to inform her of the details of the election and the pertinent requests and authorizations as to the conduct of the election.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of County Commissioners of Carbon County, Montana, this 13th day of June, 2023.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Carbon County, Montana

By: 

Presiding Officer

By: 

Member

By: 

Member

Attested



County Clerk and Recorder