A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS FOR KING COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NUMBER 45, DECLARING THE INTENT TO ESTABLISH A VOTER-AUTHORIZED BENEFIT CHARGE EACH YEAR FOR SIX (6) YEARS AND CALLING FOR AN ELECTION WITHIN THE DISTRICT OF A PROPOSITION TO ESTABLISH THE VOTER-AUTHORIZED BENEFIT CHARGE ON PERSONAL PROPERTY AND IMPROVEMENTS TO REAL PROPERTY WITHIN THE DISTRICT FOR UP TO SIX YEARS.

WHEREAS, the District is authorized by Chapter 52.18 RCW to establish, impose and collect a Benefit Charge on personal property and improvements to real property located within the District, and

WHEREAS, the District proposes to receive voter approval to so establish and impose a Benefit Charge; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners has determined that the regular property tax levy and other income for 2020 and subsequent years will not be sufficient to cover the operating costs of the District, in order to maintain a satisfactory level of service by the District to its citizens and residents; and

WHEREAS, the District’s level of service provided for fire and emergency medical services may actually have to be reduced unless the Benefit Charge is continued; and

WHEREAS, the Benefit Charge will be reasonably proportioned to the measurable benefits that each property receives from the services by the District; and

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes that if the benefit charge is established pursuant to voter approval, the District cannot collect the “third fifty cents” allowed by RCW 52.16.160 as long as the benefit charge is in force; and

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes that the benefit charges collected in the District cannot exceed 60% of the District’s operating budget;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Benefit Charge. It is the declared intent of the District to establish a voter-authorized benefit charge on personal property and improvements to real property located within King County Fire Protection District No. 45, to be paid by the owners of such property.
Section 2. Amount of Benefit Charge. The amount of the Benefit Charge for each year, and for each property, shall be set in the year preceding imposition of the charge, after a public hearing to review and establish the amount of the benefit charges for the subsequent year, pursuant to RCW 52.18.060.

Section 3. Effective Date. The Benefit Charge, if approved, would be fixed and imposed on the affected properties, effective January 1, 2020, if authorized by the voters.

Section 4. Notice of the Benefit Charge. Pursuant to RCW 52.18.060 and 52.18.070, property owners will be notified in writing of the benefit charge proposed to be assessed on their property, and the amounts thereof, subsequent to the public hearing referred to in section 2 above, and prior to the formation or convening of a benefit charge review board by the Commissioners. Such review board shall be convened and available for a two week period, to hear and decide written complaints from aggrieved property owners who, in their opinion, have been charged improperly.

Section 5. Election. Pursuant to RCW 52.18.050, there shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the District for their approval or rejection, at the general election of November 5, 2019, the question whether to approve a voter-authorized benefit charge for fire protection district purposes, as authorized by law. The Secretary of the District is authorized and directed to request the Auditor of King County to call said election, the ballot title for which is to be precisely as prescribed by RCW 52.18.050.

BALLOT TITLE

PROPOSITION NO._____  

KING COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO 45 (DUVALL FIRE)

Shall Duvall Fire (King County Fire Protection District No. 45) be authorized to impose benefit charges each year for six years, not to exceed an amount equal to sixty percent of its operating budget, and be prohibited from imposing an additional property tax under RCW 52.16.160?

_____YES  _____NO
MOVED AND PASSED AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
FIRE COMMISSIONERS FOR KING COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION
DISTRICT NO. 45 ON THE 8TH DAY OF MAY, 2019,
OF WHICH ALL COMMISSIONERS WERE NOTIFIED AND AT WHICH
ALL WERE PRESENT AND VOTING.

Jerry Smith, Chairman

Harry Oestreich, Commissioner

John Frazier, Commissioner

Attest:

Kelly Gattone, District Secretary

Approved as to form:

JOSEPH F. QUINN, WSB #6810
Attorney for District