

RESOLUTION NO. 160

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNANCE OF THE VALLEY REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY INVOKING THE STAFFORD ACT AS SUPPORT FOR THE STATE OF WASHINGTON REMITTING FEDERAL AID TO THE AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, the Valley Regional Authority (hereinafter the “Authority”) is a special purpose district, municipal corporation, public agency, and a political subdivision of the State of Washington (hereinafter the “State”);

WHEREAS, fire protection authorities may exercise those powers granted by statute or those powers that may be implied from explicit grants of authority set forth in the statutes creating them;

WHEREAS, fire protection authorities are formed for the purpose of providing fire prevention services, fire suppression services, emergency medical services, and for the protection of life and property, pursuant to RCWs 52.02.020, 52.26.040 and 52.26.090;

WHEREAS, regional fire authorities are authorized to perform any and all lawful acts necessary and expedient to carrying out the purposes for which they have been formed, pursuant to RCWs 52.12.021 and RCW 52.26.090; such acts include but are not limited to accepting gifts and emergency federal aid;

WHEREAS, the Fire Chief of the Authority has declared an emergency due to the current spread of a highly infectious disease—Covid-19;

WHEREAS, Governor Jay Inslee (hereinafter “Governor”) has declared an emergency in the State;

WHEREAS, the State and the political subdivisions thereof may accept federal aid and allocate said aid to a local government or other political subdivision, subject to the conditions of the federal agency providing the aid, pursuant to RCW 38.52.100 (2);

WHEREAS, upon direction of the President of the United States, during a major disaster, and pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 5170b, the Stafford Act, federal agencies may provide local governments with Federal equipment, supplies, facilities, personnel, and other resources, other than the extension of credit, for use or distribution by such governments to address a major disaster;

WHEREAS, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 5184 (a), the President is authorized to make loans to any local government which may suffer a substantial loss of tax and other revenues as a result of a major disaster, and has demonstrated a need for financial assistance in order to perform its governmental functions;

WHEREAS, President Donald Trump has declared a “major disaster” pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 5170; and

WHEREAS, the Authority is in need of Federal Assistance to combat the effects of a highly infectious disease, Covid-19, and may lose tax and other revenue as a result of the economic impacts of this highly infectious disease.

NOW HERETOFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF THE AUTHORITY AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. In furtherance of its powers enumerated under RCWs 52.02.020 and RCW 52.26.090, the Authority hereby requests that the State, through its executive head, Governor Jay Inslee, allocate emergency federal aid, remitted to the State through the Stafford Act, to the Authority. The Authority requests that the federal assistance enumerated in Section 2 herein be remitted to the Authority, as soon as possible.

Section 2. Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 5170b, the Authority requests that the State obtain, and remit to the Authority, the following federal assistance:

- 1) Funds that will be allocated towards expenses already incurred, and expected to be incurred, for the planning and emergency response to the COVID-19 pandemic, consist of the following:
 - a) Wages and benefits for the Authority's Incident Management Team for the time spent to develop and maintain the Authority's Incident Action Plan;
 - b) Overtime wages and benefits for a minimum of 108 firefighters;
 - c) Agency reimbursements for shared staffing and vehicles with other King County agencies;
 - d) Any and all additional Personal Protective Equipment that is beyond the normal inventories for the Authority;
 - e) Rental of any vehicles or equipment that is needed to support the planning and response effort to the COVID-19 outbreak;
 - f) Facility, logistic, and support expenses to utilize Authority facilities as a Fire Responder quarantine and isolation location for Authority personnel and those First Responders from other agencies that live within close proximity to any such facilities;
 - g) Any other equipment, facilities, services or funds necessary to provide fire protection and suppression services, emergency medical services, or to protect life and property

Section 3. The Authority reserves the ability to seek further loans from the federal government, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 5184 (a), in the event the Authority loses tax or other revenues as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and the economic impacts therefrom;

Section 4. Upon receipt of the aid enumerated above in Section 2, the Authority shall place any remitted funds in a separate account solely for purposes of disaster relief, and shall follow all applicable rules and regulations applicable to the aid remitted by the federal government to the Authority; and

Section 5. The Fire Chief is directed to immediately forward this resolution to the Governor and to the President.

Section 6. This Resolution and the aid request enumerated herein is intended to be proactive, and retroactive to January 31, 2020.

RESOLVED this 12 day of May 2020.


VALLEY REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY


LEANNE GUIER
Governing Board Chair

ATTEST:


Stefanie Harper
Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Eric T. Quinn
Authority Attorney