

# Beckwourth Peak Fire Protection District AGENDA

#### Special Meeting May 22, 2024 05:00 PM 180 Main St, Beckwourth, CA 96129

#### **Board of Directors**

President Richard McLaughlin • Vice-President Daniel Smith • Director Cary Curtis • Director Melissa Klundby • Director Larry Smith

#### **REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS**

In compliance with the American Disabilities Act (ADA), the district will make every reasonable attempt to accommodate any attendee or participant at this meeting needing special assistance beyond what is normally provided. Please contact Beckwourth Peak Fire Protection District at 530-832-1008 at least 48 hours prior to this meeting to inform us of your particular needs. Beckwourth Peak Fire Protection District will determine if your particular needs can be accommodated.

#### 1. Call to Order

- A. Pledge of Allegiance
- B. Roll Call

## 2. Public Comments

## ☑ Discussion 🗦 Comment

Members of the public are invited to address the District on any matter of interest to the public that is not on the agenda for a period of time not to exceed 3 minutes. Pursuant to the Brown Act, the District cannot discuss or take any action on items not listed on the posted agenda but may add to a future agenda matters brought up under public comments for appropriate action at a future meeting

# 3. First Reading of Proposed Property Tax Ordinance ☑ Discussion ☑ Possible Action <sup>□</sup> <u>Comment</u> <u>View Item</u>

The district will present the first reading of the proposed Special Tax Ordinance, which will enable the district to enforce the special tax that was approved by district constituents. The intention is to make available to the public the waiver forms for certain properties and tax payers, before the assessment certification is due to the County.

# 4. Contract Acceptance for GSRMA Insurance Service ☑ Discussion ☑ Possible Action <sup>□</sup> Comment <u>View Item</u>

Board to review, and accept if agreeable, the Insurance Contract with GSMRA.

# 5. Resolution 2024-03 Authoring the Board President or Fire Chief to Accept, Sign, and Record Certain Recordable Documents. ✓ Discussion ✓ Possible Action <sup>□</sup> Comment <u>View Item</u>

Board to review, and possibly adopt, Resolution 2024.03, to enable the District to accept the transfer of property from Beckwourth and Sierra Valley.

## 6. Future Agenda Items

☑ Discussion 🔎 <u>Comment</u>

Any items requested to be included on the next meetings agenda.

#### 7. Next Board Meeting

☑ Discussion 🔎 <u>Comment</u>

The next meeting is scheduled for June 5th, 2024 at 5:00 pm.

#### 8. Adjournment

FROM: Daniel Smith, Vice President / Treasurer Meeting Date: 5-22-24

RE: Introduction and first reading of Ordinance 2024-01 Administer the Special Tax on Real Property Located within the District

BACKGROUND: The District is required to pass an ordinance that confirms the Special Tax amounts that will be collected on different types of Parcels that were approved by the voters in the November 7, 2023, election. The ordinance also lays out how the District will administer the exceptions and details of the tax.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: The draft ordinance 2024-01 has been reviewed by staff and District Legal Counsel has reviewed and approved the Ordinance for introduction and first reading at the May 22, 2024, Special meeting. The ordinance and a review of how the Board voted will be listed on the agenda at the next regular Board meeting on June 5, 2024, for a second reading and will become effective if passed in thirty days after the adoption. Staff has started working on informing the community on how to apply for the two exemptions they may qualify for.

First is low income, partial or total exemption of the tax. Second is contiguous parcel exemption for undeveloped, identical ownership and used solely for timber production or agricultural grazing.

FISCAL IMPACT: Special Tax is estimated to raise an annual amount of \$405,000.



# **BECKWOURTH PEAK** FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Phone: Station 1 (530) 832-1008 Fax: (530) 832-5828 fireprotectplumas@gmail.com 180 Main St. Beckwourth, CA 96129

# **Board Members**

#### ORDINANCE 2024 -01

Rich McLaughlin President	AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE BECKWOURTH PEAK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT TO ADMINISTER THE SPECIAL TAX ON REAL PROPERTY LOCATED WITHIN THE DISTRICT					
Daniel Smith						
Vice-President	WHEREAS, an election was held on November 7, 2023, in accordance with the notice and hearing					
Cary Curtis Director	procedures of Government Code Section 50075 et seq. and Article XIII A of the California Constitution, and Measure E for the formation of the Beckwourth Peak Fire Protection District and Measure F for the Beckwourth Peak Fire Protection District Special Tax was approved by the					
Melissa Klundby Director	registered voters of the District by a margin greater than the required 2/3 vote; and					
Larry Smith Director	<b>WHEREAS</b> , the special tax approved by the voters includes two specific exemptions that (1) allow parcels that are contiguous, undeveloped, held under identical ownership and used solely for timber production or agricultural grazing, upon approval of an application of the owners thereof to the					
Interim Fire Chief Kenny Osburn	District, to be treated as a single parcel for purposes of this special tax; and (2) a Low Income Exemption, to allow landowners who fall within the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development income limits for "very low" or "poverty level" income to apply for a partial or					
Admin. Officer Heather Grant	complete exemption from the tax; and					

**WHEREAS,** the Plumas Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo), in approving the formation of the District, required that the Beckwourth Peak Fire Protection District (BPFPD) establish procedures to administer the special tax including the above referenced exemptions.

# NOW, THEREFORE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE BECKWOURTH PEAK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

#### **SECTION 1: PURPOSE AND INTENT**

The purpose and intent of the BPFPD Board of Directors (Board) with respect to the special tax described in Section 2 ("Special Tax") enacting clause as specified in Health and Safety code section 13861(h) and Government code section 25120 is as follows:

A. To provide annual funding to support ongoing fire protection services, including staffing coverage, insurance, fuel, and essential equipment, consistent with the needs of the residents of the BPFPD



and the Fire Protection District Law of 1987, with emphasis on mandated and statutory requirements for personnel and equipment safety.

B. To provide for a Reserve Fund that will increase over time by setting aside each year a percentage of total revenue placed into the District Reserve Fund, said percentage to be agreed upon and set each year at a public meeting of the BPFPD Board.

#### **SECTION 2: SPECIAL TAX IMPOSED**

Assessor's Parcels taxed under this Ordinance shall be defined as any taxable parcel of land, developed or undeveloped, wholly or partially located within the BPFPD as defined by both the geographic description contained in the Plumas County LAFCo Resolution No. 23-0004, "Resolution of Approval to form the Beckwourth Peak Fire Protection District", which is the basis for the establishment of unique Tax Rate Area numbers, assigned by the State Board of Equalization, that represent the BPFPD boundary and where Tax Rate Area numbers shall be assigned by Plumas County to each Assessor's Parcel Number within the BPFPD boundary. The initial Special Tax amount, as approved by the District voters on November 7, 2023, shall be apportioned to property at a base rate of \$110 for improved single family residential parcels under 1,800 square feet, and parcels with other uses will be charged at various rates based on usage as set forth below:



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#### Table 9: Proposed Special Tax Fees by Property Type

	Rate ID	Base Rate	% of A	SF incl	Acre incl	Units incl	\$/add SF	\$/Add AC	\$/add Unit	Max Rate
Residential Improved	Α	\$110.00		1,800			\$0.02			\$200
Unimproved Land	В	\$55.00	50%		2			\$1.00		\$75
Ag & Timber	С	\$55.00	50%		80			\$0.05		\$75
Multi Residential Improved	D	\$82.50	75%			1			\$82.50	\$3,500
Commercial Improved	E	\$165.00	150%	2,700			\$0.06			\$1,500
Industrial Improved	F	\$192.50	175%	3,150			\$0.07			\$1,500
Religious	G	\$137.50	125%	2,250			\$0.05			\$250
Recreational Improved	н	\$220.00	200%	2,700			\$0.08			\$3,500
Non-Taxable/Exempt	х	\$0								

- A. Residential Improved All residential single-family homes and ancillary residential uses will be allocated a base rate of \$110.00 for structures 1,800 square feet or less, with additional \$0.02 cents per square foot charged thereafter, with a maximum not to exceed \$200.00 per parcel.
- B. Unimproved Land All vacant/unimproved land will be allocated a base rate of \$55.00 for the first 2 acres, with \$1.00 charged for each acre thereafter, with a maximum not to exceed \$75.00 per parcel.
- C. Ag & Timber All agriculture and timber land will be allocated a base rate of \$55.00 for the first 80 acres, with \$0.05 cents charged for each acre thereafter, with a maximum not to exceed \$75.00 per parcel.
- D. Multi Residential Improved All multi-family, mobile home, manufactured homes, duplexes, condos, and ancillary residential uses will be allocated a base rate of \$82.50 per unit, with each additional unit charged \$82.50 thereafter, with a maximum not to exceed \$3,500.00 per parcel.
- E. Commercial Improved All commercial buildings will be allocated a base rate of \$165.00 for buildings 2,700 square feet or less, with additional \$0.06 cents per square foot charged thereafter, with a maximum not to exceed \$1,500.00 per parcel.
- F. Industrial Improved All industrial buildings will be allocated a base rate of \$192.50 for buildings 3,150 square feet or less, with additional \$0.07 cents per square foot charged thereafter, with a maximum not to exceed \$1,500.00 per parcel.
- G. Religious All improved religious land will be allocated a base rate of \$137.50 for buildings 2,250 square feet or less, with additional \$0.05 cents per square foot charged thereafter, with a maximum not to exceed \$250.00 per parcel.
- H. Recreational Improved All Recreational Improved land will be allocated a base rate of \$220.00 for buildings 2,700 square feet or less, with additional \$0.08 cents per square foot charged thereafter, with a maximum not to exceed \$3,500.00 per parcel.
- Non-Taxable/Exempt Exempt parcels include public owned parcels (United States of America and State of California, other local governmental agencies) and non-taxable parcels as determined by various statues including, but not limited to, Disabled Veterans, Welfare Exemptions, Cemetery Exemptions, and Low Value exemptions, will not have the special tax imposed.

#### **SECTION 3: EXEMPTION FROM SPECIAL TAX**



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The following parcels shall be exempt from the Special Tax described in Section 2:

A. Assessor's Parcels that are partially or wholly exempt from property tax shall be identified by the Assessor's Office for the BPFPD and include publicly owned parcels (United States of America and State of California, or other local agencies) and other exemptions established by state law.

B. <u>Parcels Subject to a Contiguous Parcel Exemption</u>. Assessors Parcels which are contiguous, undeveloped, held under identical ownership and used solely for timber production or agricultural grazing, categorized as Rate ID "C", upon approval of an application by the owners thereof to the BPFPD, to be treated as a single parcel for purposes of the Special Tax. The owners of such Assessors Parcels shall annually submit to the BPFPD an application form, attached hereto as ATTACHMENT A to this Ordinance, for each year the exemption is claimed. The application shall provide the owner(s) name and address, property maps, and deed and title information that sufficiently demonstrate that the applicant is the owner of record or trustee of the owner of record with Power of Attorney for the owner of record for all the contiguous property(ies). The BPFPD Board may adopt policies and procedures or revise the application form necessary to carry out this exemption, by resolution.

C. <u>Parcels Subject to a Low-Income Exemption</u>., Landowners who fall within the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) income limits for "very low"; or "poverty level" may apply to the BPFPD for a partial or complete exemption from the Special Tax. The owners of such parcels shall annually submit an application, as attached hereto as ATTACHMENT B to the BPFPD to this Ordinance, for each year the exemption is claimed. The application shall provide the owner(s) name and address, number of household members, income verification for the previous year, the most recent property tax bill to demonstrate property ownership, and a signed declaration under penalty of that the applicant(s) qualify for the exemption per HUD Guidelines. The BPFPD Board may adopt policies and procedures, or revise the application form, necessary to carry out this exemption, by resolution.

#### **SECTION 4: ANNUAL ADJUSTMENT**

An inflationary adjustment to the Special Tax may be approved by resolution prior to each fiscal year, commencing July 1, 2025, at a public meeting. An annual inflationary increase may be no more than the cost of living as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for All Urban Consumers, West Region, not seasonally adjusted, for the preceding year, as prepared by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics and shall not exceed three percent (3%) in any one year.



#### **SECTION 5: PROPERTY TAX ROLL**

Each year, prior to the August due date imposed by the Plumas County Auditor-Controller, the BPFPD Board shall adopt a resolution approving the Special Tax amount for each taxable parcel, pursuant to Sections 2 through 4 above, to be placed on the property tax roll and shall be delivered to the Auditor-Controller on or before the August due date in order to be included with the County property tax bills.

#### **SECTION 6: METHOD OF COLLECTION**

The Special Tax is due from every person(s) who owns a taxable parcel or parcels within the BPFPD and shall be collected on the tax roll of by the County of Plumas in the same manner, by the same persons, and at the same time as, together with and not separately from, the general taxes of the County. The Plumas County Tax Collector shall collect the tax and any penalty or interest due hereunder. The amount of the Special Tax due to the BPFPD under this Ordinance shall constitute a debt to the BPFPD. Plumas County may deduct the reasonable costs incurred by the County to place the Special Tax on the tax roll before remitting the balance to the BPFPD.

#### **SECTION 7: DELINQUENCY**

Should any amount of the Special Tax created by this Ordinance become delinquent, the Plumas County Tax Collector shall add a penalty in the amount equal to any penalty owing for delinquencies in the ad valorem property tax. The tax and penalty shall bear interest at the same rate as the rate for unpaid ad valorem property tax until paid.

#### **SECTION 8: EFFECTIVE DATE**

Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 13861(h) and California Government Code 25123, this Ordinance shall become effective thirty (30) days from the date of final approval by the BPFPD Board.

#### **SECTION 9: ANNUAL REPORT**



The BPFPD shall file an annual report with the BPFPD Board regarding the use of the tax proceeds as required by Government Code section 50075.3. The annual report shall include, but is not limited to, all of the following:

- A statement indicating the specific purposes of the Special Tax.
- A statement that the proceeds were applied only for the provision of fire protection services by the BPFPD as stated in the Fire Protection Law of 1987.
- The account(s) into which the proceeds have been deposited.
- The amount of funds collected and expended.

• The status of any project required or authorized to be funded as identified in Government Code section 50075.1(a).

#### **SECTION 10: INVALIDITY**

If any part of this ordinance is held to be invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the remaining portion of this Ordinance and the BPFPD Board hereby declares that it would have passed the remainder of this Ordinance as if such invalid portion thereof had been deleted.

#### SECTION 11: ADOPTION, PUBLICATION, AND POSTING

This Ordinance shall take effect and be in force thirty (30) days from the date of its passage. The Ordinance shall be published and posted in accordance with Health and Safety Code section 13861(h) and Government Code section 25124.



This ordinance was introduced at a duly notice	d meeting held on	, 2024	_ and was PASSED,
APPROVED, AND ADOPTED on	by the following vote:		

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Rich McLauglin, Board President

ATTEST:

**Board Secretary** 



#### ATTACHMENT A

#### CONTIGUOUS PARCEL EXEMPTION APPLICATION

#### **BECKWOURTH PEAK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

**POLICY:** The Beckwourth Peak Fire Protection District has established by Ordinance 2024-01, Section 3.B., a Contiguous Parcel Exemption for property owners from the special tax approved by voters for the District. The exemption applies to "Assessor's parcels which are contiguous, undeveloped, held under identical ownership and used solely for timber production or agricultural grazing, upon approval by an application of the owners thereof to the District, to be treated as a single parcel for purposes of the Special Tax."

#### **Definitions:**

**Contiguous:** Parcels which share a common border. They need not share common access, although they usually would.

Undeveloped: Parcels without habitable structures.

**Identical Ownership:** In determining ownership and control of contiguous parcels, the owners shall be the same. In the event that the owner of record of two properties is not the same person(s), the applicant must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the District that they have a controlling interest in the properties claimed as contiguous. Such properties may include parcels owned by corporations, trusts, or estates.

**Map Attached:** Suitable maps include Assessor Parcel maps representing all contiguous parcels, which are available at the Plumas County Assessor's Office (1 Crescent Street, Quincy, CA 95971) or online.

**Proof of Deed or Title:** Suitable items of proof include a recent property tax bill with parcel number or a copy of the first page of a Deed or Title.

Please submit by March 1 of each year to: Beckwourth Peak Fire Protection District, 180 Main St. Beckwourth, CA 96129



#### CONTIGUOUS PARCEL EXEMPTION APPLICATION BECKWOURTH PEAK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Applicant(s) Name			Date	1			
				Phone			
Owner(s) Name of Record			Othe	er Name(s) on Record	k		
Addresses of	f Record		Mai	ling address, if differ	ent		
Assessor's	Owner's Name as	AP	'N	Describe Use of	Address		
Parcel #	shown on Deed	Cont	ains	Parcel and	Associated		
(APN)		Dwelling		Improvements	with APN		
		(Y/	N)				

Add additional page(s) if necessary.

Map(s) attached?

Proof of Deed or title attached?

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. I also understand that that this form must be submitted by March 1st each year the exemption is claimed.

Signature (Only one applicant needs to sign)

	Date:
For District Use Only: Map and Title Verification App	roved Date:
Meets Requirement for Exemption	_Does Not Meet Requirements for Exemption



# **BECKWOURTH PEAK** FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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#### ATTACHMENT B

LOW INCOME EXEMPTION APPLICATION

#### **BECKWOURTH PEAK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

**POLICY:** The Beckwourth Peak Fire Protection District has established by Ordinance 2024-01, Section 3.C., a Low Income Exemption to allow landowners who fall within the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) income limits for "very low" or "poverty level" income, to apply to the BPFPD for a partial or complete exemption from payment of the special tax by submitting this Low Income Exemption Application. This form must contain the owner(s) name, number of family members, income for the preceding year, the most recent property tax bill to demonstrate property ownership, and declaration under penalty of perjury that the applicant(s) qualify for this exemption per income limit guidelines. Income limits are revised annually in July to reflect changing HUD guidelines.

<u>Guidelines</u>: The official State Income Limits for all counties are posted at the Department of Housing and Community Development's website https://www.hcd.ca.gov/grants-and-funding/income-limits/state-and-federal-income-rent-and-loan-value-limits.

I declare that my income meets the "very low" or "poverty level" guidelines and for that reason I wish to apply for an exemption of payment of the Beckwourth Peak Fire District special tax for the tax year 20\_\_\_\_\_.

Property Owner legal

Name(s)\_\_\_\_\_

Number of Family Members\_\_\_\_\_

Income for Previous Year \$\_\_\_\_\_

Assessor Parcel Number(s)\_\_\_\_\_

I have attached a copy of my most recent property tax bill for my parcel.

I have attached a copy of my previous year's tax form or other form of income.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. I also understand that verification of income may be required, and that this form must be submitted each year the exemption is claimed.

Signature (Only one owner needs to sign) \_\_\_\_\_



Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please submit by March 1 of each year to:

Beckwourth Peak Fire Protection District

180 Main St, Beckwourth, CA 96129

FROM: Daniel Smith, Vice President / Treasurer Meeting Date: 5-22-24

**RE: Application Packet to Golden State Risk Management Association** 

BACKGROUND: On May 8, 2024, the BPFPD Board reviewed bids from three Insurance providers for 2024-25 insurance coverage for the new district The board selected GSRMA as the winner of the bids that were submitted

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: GSRMA has provided us with the application packet to join the insurance association. There are 5 documents attached for the process.

- 1. Agreement for admission of a new member to GSRMA. To be signed by Board President and returned to GSRMA.
- 2. Copy of GSRMA Bylaws.
- 3. Copy of JPA for providing Liability, workers comp, property and other coverages.
- 4. Application for certificate of consent to self-insure as a Public Agency Employer self Insurer. Resolution attached and is required. Signed by Board President and notarized. Return to GSRMA they will file with the State.
- 5. Copy of GSRMA bid.

This packet is critical for insurance coverage by 7-1-24 so we can operate legally.

FISCAL IMPACT: Annual cost of coverage is 68,102.00 estimated. Could change based on budget and addition of EPRFPD annexing into BPFPD.

Adopted: April 10, 1979

Amended: April 27, 1992 Amended: June 11, 1997 Amended: July 1, 2000 Amended: July 14, 2004 Amended: July 1, 2009

# JOINT EXERCISE OF POWERS AGREEMENT FOR PROVIDING LIABILITY, WORKERS' COMPENSATION, PROPERTY AND OTHER COVERAGES

# ENTERED INTO BY

# PUBLIC AGENCIES WITHIN AND WITHOUT THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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# JOINT EXERCISE OF POWERS AGREEMENT FOR PROVIDING LIABILITY, WORKERS' COMPENSATION, PROPERTY AND OTHER COVERAGES

\* \* \*

THIS AGREEMENT is dated, for convenience, July 1, 1979, as the date the Agreement was initially entered into among certain public agencies within the County of Glenn. Thereafter, this Agreement has been amended to include Public Agencies within or without the State of California. These public agencies are hereafter referred to as "Member Agencies" and listed in Appendix "A", which may be amended from time to time.

#### PREAMBLE

Golden State Risk Management Authority is established for the purpose of providing services and other functions necessary and appropriate for the creation, operation, and maintenance of liability, workers' compensation, property and other risk pooling and coverage plans for the Member Agencies that are parties hereof, and to provide a forum for discussion, study, development and implementation of recommendations of mutual interest regarding risk pooling and insured programs.

#### RECITALS

This Agreement is predicated upon the following facts:

1. WHEREAS the Member Agencies are public agencies organized and operating under the laws of the State of California or other states of the United States;

2. WHEREAS, the following California state laws, among others, authorize the Member Agencies to enter into this agreement:

a. Labor Code Section 3700(c) allowing a local public entity to fund its own worker's compensation Claims;

b. Government Code Sections 989 and 990, *et seq.* and Education Code Sections 17566 and 17567 permitting a local public entity to insure itself against liability and other losses;

c. Government Code Section 990.4 permitting a local public entity to provide insurance and self-insurance in any desired combination;

d. Government Code Section 990.8 permitting two or more local public entities to enter into an agreement to jointly fund such expenditures under the authority of Government Code Sections 6500 *et seq.*;

e. Government Code Sections 6500, *et seq.* permitting two or more local public entities (including public agencies located outside the State of California) to jointly exercise under an agreement any power which is common to each of them.

3. WHEREAS, each of the parties to this Agreement desires to join together with the other parties for the purpose of developing an effective risk management program to reduce the amount and frequency of their losses, pooling their self-insured losses, and jointly purchasing excess insurance and administrative services in connection with a joint program for said parties; and

4. WHEREAS, a feasibility study has shown that it is economically feasible and practical for the parties to this Agreement to do so;

5. WHEREAS, this Authority was originally created and was known as the "Glenn County Joint Powers Authority",

NOW, THEREFORE, for and in consideration of all of the mutual benefits, covenants and agreements contained herein, the parties hereto agree as follows:

#### ARTICLE 1 PURPOSES

This Agreement is entered into by Member Agencies pursuant to the provisions of California Government Code sections 990, 990.4, 990.8 and 6500 *et seq.* in order to develop an effective risk management program: (a) to reduce the amount and frequency of their losses, (b) to pool their self-insured losses, and (c) to jointly purchase excess insurance and administrative services in connection with a joint protection program for the Member Agencies.

These purposes shall be accomplished through the exercise of the powers of Member Agencies jointly in the creation of a separate entity, now know as "Golden State Risk Management Authority", to administer a joint protection program wherein Member Agencies will pool their losses and Claims, jointly purchase excess insurance and administrative and other services, including Claims adjusting, data processing, risk management, loss prevention, legal and related services.

It is also the purpose of this Agreement to provide, to the extent permitted by law, for the inclusion at a subsequent date of such additional public agencies organized and existing under the laws of the State of California or of any other state of the United States as may desire to

become parties to this Agreement and members of the Authority, subject to approval by the Board.

#### ARTICLE 2 RULES OF CONSTRUCTION

- A. The following rules of construction apply:
  - 1. The present tense includes the past or future tense; the future tense includes the present tense.
  - 2. The singular includes the plural and the plural includes the singular.
  - 3. "Shall" is mandatory and "may" is permissive.
  - 4. The masculine gender includes the feminine and neuter.

#### ARTICLE 3 PARTIES TO AGREEMENT

Each party to this Agreement certifies that it intends to, and does contract with, all other parties who are signatories of this Agreement and, in addition, with such other parties as may later be added as parties to, and signatories of, this Agreement. Each party to this Agreement also certifies that the deletion of any party from this Agreement, by cancellation or withdrawal, shall not affect this Agreement nor the remaining parties' intent to contract as described above with the other parties to the Agreement then remaining.

#### ARTICLE 4 CREATION OF AUTHORITY

Pursuant to Section 6500 *et seq.* of the Government Code, the Authority, a public entity, separate and apart from the parties to this Agreement, is hereby created. The creation of a separate public entity is intended by this Agreement pursuant to Government Code Section 6507. The Authority shall be known as the Golden State Risk Management Authority. The Authority shall be governed by a Board whose composition, powers and duties are set forth in the Bylaws.

#### ARTICLE 5 TERM OF AGREEMENT

This Agreement is effective July 1, 1979, and continues until terminated as hereafter provided.

# ARTICLE 6 BYLAWS

This Agreement fully incorporates the Bylaws, as adopted and which may be amended from time to time consistent with this Agreement, by the Board.

# ARTICLE 7 POWERS OF THE AUTHORITY

A. The Authority is authorized, in its own name, to do all acts necessary for the exercise of those powers referred to in Recital 2 including, but not limited to each of the following:

- 1. Make and enter into contracts;
- 2. Incur debts, liabilities, and obligations; but no debt, liability, or obligation of the Authority is a debt, liability, or obligation of any Member Agency which is a party to this Agreement, except as otherwise provided in Article 8 herein and in Article IV of the Bylaws;
- 3. Acquire, hold or dispose of real and personal property;
- 4. Receive contributions and donations of property, funds, services, and other forms of assistance from any source;
- 5. Sue and be sued in its name;
- 6. Employ agents and employees;
- 7. Acquire, construct, manage, and maintain buildings;
- 8. Lease real or personal property including that of a Member Agency;
- 9. Receive, collect, invest, and disburse moneys; and
- 10. All other powers described in Government Code Sections 6508 and 6509.5 which sections are incorporated by reference.

These powers shall be exercised in the manner provided by law, and, except as expressly set forth in this Agreement, subject only to those restrictions upon the manner of exercising the powers which are imposed upon the County of Glenn in the exercise of similar powers.

# ARTICLE 8 AUTHORITY FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A. The Authority shall perform the following functions in discharging its responsibilities under this Agreement:

- 1. Adopt an annual budget;
- 2. Establish such funds and accounts as required for efficient operation of the Authority and good accounting practices;
- 3. Maintain or have maintained accurate loss records for all covered risks, for all Claims paid, and for such other losses as the Board requires or directs be maintained;
- 4. Acquire protection against risks, as authorized by the Board, that may include, but are not limited to, general liability, public officials' errors and omissions liability, employment practices liability, pollution liability, automobile liability, watercraft liability, workers' compensation, property, and equipment breakdown, through, but not limited to, self-insurance funding, risk pooling and/or commercial insurance, for primary, excess and/or umbrella insurance coverage, by negotiation, bid, or purchase;
- 5. Provide loss prevention, safety and loss control services;
- 6. Provide Claims management services for covered risks;
- 7. Provide Claims recovery and subrogation services to investigate, pursue, and collect for damages resulting from Covered Losses that are caused, partly or totally, by the acts of others;
- 8. Select and retain legal counsel and Claims legal defense counsel;
- 9. Perform other functions for the purpose of accomplishing the goals of this Agreement.

### ARTICLE 9 MEMBER AGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. Each Member Agency has the following responsibilities:
  - 1. Designate a primary contact for the Authority;

- 2. Pursuant to the procedures set forth in the Bylaws, appoint representatives to the Authority Board;
- 3. Pay timely all contribution charges, contribution surcharges, adjustments or any other fees or charges.
- 4. Notify and cooperate fully with the Authority in all matters relating to any and all Claims;
- 5. Provide annually all information required or requested by the Authority in order for the Authority to properly calculate contributions and to carry out the Joint Protection Program under this Agreement;
- 6. Provide annually current, complete, and accurate information of the values of buildings and contents covered by the Authority;
- 7. Maintain loss prevention and risk management policies that can reasonably be expected to reduce, or minimize, the Member Agency's losses;
- 8. Such other responsibilities as are provided elsewhere in this Agreement and as are established by the Board in order to carry out the purposes of this Agreement.

# ARTICLE 10 TERMINATION

A. This Agreement may be terminated at any time by the written consent of three-fourths of the Member Agencies, provided, however, that this Agreement and the Authority shall continue to exist for the purpose of disposing of all Claims, distribution of assets and all other functions necessary to wind up the affairs of the Authority.

B. Upon termination of this Agreement, all assets of the Authority shall be distributed only among the parties that have been Member Agencies in the joint protection program, including any of those parties which previously withdrew, in accordance with and proportionate to their contribution payments made during the term of this Agreement. The Board shall determine such distribution within six months after the last pending Claim or loss covered by this Agreement has been finally adjusted, resolved and concluded.

C. The Board is vested with all powers for the purpose of concluding and dissolving the business affairs of the Authority. These powers shall include the power to assess current and former Member Agencies (Member Agencies at the time existing unpaid Claims arose or losses incurred), to pay any additional amounts necessary for the final disposition of all Claims and

losses covered by this Agreement. A Member Agency's share of such additional contribution shall be determined on the same basis as that provided for in Paragraph B. of this Article.

D. Termination of any Member Agency shall not be construed as a completion of the purpose of this Agreement and shall not require the repayment or return to any terminating Member Agency of all or any part of any contributions, payments or advances made until the Agreement is rescinded or terminated as to all parties.

E. The decision of the Board under this Article shall be final.

#### ARTICLE 11 PROHIBITION AGAINST ASSIGNMENT

No Member Agency may assign any right, claim, or interest it may have under this Agreement, and no creditor, assignee, or their party beneficiary of any Member Agency shall have any right, claim, or title to any part, share, interest, fund, contribution, or asset of the Authority.

# ARTICLE 12

#### AMENDMENTS

This Agreement may be amended from time to time by an affirmative vote of more than 50% of the Member Agencies.

#### ARTICLE 13 ENFORCEMENT

The Authority is hereby granted the authority to enforce this Agreement. In the event any action is instituted concerning a dispute involving any provision of this Agreement, the prevailing party in such action shall be entitled to such sums as the court may fix as attorneys fees and costs.

#### ARTICLE 14 COUNTERPARTS

This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts and shall be as fully effective as though executed in one document.

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## ARTICLE 15 COMPLETE AGREEMENT

The foregoing constitutes the full and complete Agreement of the parties. There are no oral understandings or agreements not set forth in writing herein.

### ARTICLE 16 FILING WITH SECRETARY OF STATE

The Risk Manager shall file a notice of this Agreement with the office of California Secretary of State within thirty (30) days of its effective date, as required by the Government Code section 6503.5 and within seventy (70) days of its effective date as required by Government Code section 53051.

# SIGNATORIES

The original signatures for the Member Agencies are set forth in the original Joint Powers Agreement. The necessary signatures for Amendments to this Agreement are set forth with each Amended Agreement.

# GOLDEN STATE RISK MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY BYLAWS

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#### ARTICLE I. DEFINITIONS

A. Unless the context otherwise requires, the designated terms in the Joint Powers Agreement and Bylaws have the following definitions:

- 1. "Authority" means the Golden State Risk Management Authority.
- 2. "Basic Risk Coverages" shall mean the protection package offered to all Member Agencies, consisting of protection for risks related to General Liability, Workers' Compensation, Property, and Miscellaneous exposures, unless an exception has been made by the Board.
- 3. "Board" or "Governing Board" shall mean the governing board of the Authority;
- 4 "Certificate of Coverage" or "COC" is the document issued by the Authority to Member Agencies specifying the scope and amount of pooled protection provided to each Member Agency by the Authority.
- 5. "City" shall include cities, towns, and villages, whether incorporated or not. City does not include a County.
- 6. "Claim" shall mean any demand, action, suit or proceeding against a Member Agency arising out of an occurrence that falls within the Authority's Joint Protection Program.
- 7. "County" shall mean a political subdivision of the State of California or any other State of the United States of America. County does not include a City.
- 8. "Covered Loss" is a loss resulting from a Claim against a Member Agency, in excess of the Member Agency's deductible, retained limit or self-insured retention that falls within the Joint Protection Program, as prescribed by the pertinent Memorandum of Coverage and Certificate of Coverage.
- 9. "Excess Coverage" shall mean that coverage afforded by commercial insurance or any pooling arrangement purchased by the Authority to cover losses in excess of the Authority's own deductible, retained limit or self-insured retention.
- 10. "Fiscal Year" is the period from the first day of July of each year to and including the thirtieth day of June of the following year.
- 11. "Incurred Loss" is the sum of moneys paid and reserved by the Authority that is necessary to investigate and defend a Claim and to satisfy a Covered Loss sustained by a Member Agency.

- 12. "Joint Protection Program" or "Program" shall mean the operation of the Authority under which the Member Agencies are protected against designated losses, through pooling of self-insured funds, joint purchase of commercial insurance, or any combination as determined by the Board.
- 13. "Member" means a member of the Board.
- 14. "Member Agency" means any public agency that is a party to this Agreement.
- 15. "Memorandum of Coverage" or "MOC" is the document issued by the Authority to Member Agencies specifying the limits of liability of the coverage provided to each Member Agency, including the Authority's deductible or retention amount and Excess Coverage limits.
- 16. "Special District" shall mean special districts created pursuant to the law of the State of California or of any other state which provides any governmental service. Special Districts shall be treated as Member Agencies except that Special Districts governed through the Board of Supervisors of a County shall be represented on the Board by that County in accordance with Article III hereof.

#### ARTICLE II. OFFICES

The Authority's principal office for the transaction of business is located at 243 West Sycamore Street, Willows, California. The Governing Board may change the location of the principal office from time to time.

#### ARTICLE III. GOVERNING BOARD

#### A. GOVERNING BOARD

The Authority shall be governed by a Board composed of seven (7) Members, all of whom shall be elected or appointed Members of the governing boards of Member Agencies. The Members of the Board shall be composed of: (1) two Members from the boards of supervisors of County Member Agencies; (2) one Member from the city council of a City Member Agency; (3) one Member from the board of trustees of a school district Member Agency; (4) one Member from the board of directors of a cemetery district Member Agency; (5) one Member from the board of directors of a fire protection district Member Agency; and (6) one member from the board of directors of a Special District Member Agency.

#### B. ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS

1. Annual elections are to be held to fill vacating positions on the Governing Board as described herein. The election process shall include the use of the Board Member Election Timeline. The Timeline shall be updated and approved by the Board annually. The Board Member Election Timeline shall be maintained as a separate document. 2. Vacancies for the Board alternate with representatives for cemetery districts, cities and school districts opening in even numbered years and representatives for fire districts and special districts opening in odd numbered years. Currently, two county representatives are appointed by the Glenn County Board of Supervisors on their own appointment schedule.

Districts in the above member groups will be invited to nominate themselves. The nomination will be for a particular district not for an individual person. If elected, the chosen district shall: (a) appoint a member of their governing board to serve on the Board, and also (b) appoint a second member of their governing board to serve as an alternate Board Member. In the absence of the appointed representative due to (a) resignation, or (b) inability to attend any Board meetings, the alternate representative shall (a) substitute for and replace the resigned representative. If no nominations are received for a particular group, the Board shall appoint an individual meeting all requirements for representing that group to fill the opening for the duration of the term.

Once the nomination period has closed and the slate of nominated districts is approved by the Board, an election will be conducted. If a member is the only district nominated for a group, no election voting shall be held for that group and that district will be the considered the winner of the election.

During this election period, nominated districts may contact districts in their peer group to promote their desire to appoint a representative to the Board.

Each district will get one vote each. The vote will either be by board action or by the district representative (usually the district manager or primary contact) as authorized by the district board.

All communication to members will be through their preferred method of communication (email or USPS). Members may vote either electronically or via USPS or fax.

Vote count will not be disclosed to any party prior to the results being presented to the Board.

Election winners are determined by a simple majority of the votes cast. In case of a tie among those receiving the most votes, the winner will be decided by random selection from those candidates that are tied.

If a seated board member is no longer a member of their represented District's governing board, the governing board of that district shall appoint another representative from their governing board. If that board does not appoint a

member by the next meeting of the Board, the Board shall appoint an individual meeting all requirements for representing that group for the duration of the term.

If a chosen district has determined to and acted to withdraw from GSRMA, then: (a) when a withdrawal occurs before the term of the appointed representative begins, then the next highest vote getter shall be the chosen district in that member group; or (b) if the withdrawal occurs after the term has begun, the Board shall fill this vacancy by appointing another member agency in that member group to act as a chosen district and to appoint a member of their governing board to serve on the Board for the duration of the term.

#### C. TERMS OF OFFICE

- 1. The term of each Member shall be two years.
- 2. Each Member serves at the pleasure of his or her respective appointing governing body and may be replaced at any time. The County Members shall also represent all special districts that are governed by County boards of supervisors. No person who is an employee of any Member Agency shall be appointed to serve on the Governing Board.

#### D. VOTING AND COMPENSATION

- 1. Each Member has one vote.
- 2. Each district represented by a board member shall be entitled to \$5,000 per member per year of service on the Board. In addition, Members shall be entitled to reimbursement for transportation expenses incurred in connection with performance of duties as a Member pursuant to the Internal Revenue Service's established allowance. The Board may authorize additional reimbursement for other expenses incurred in connection with duties as a Member.

#### E. POWERS OF THE BOARD

The Board, consistent with the purposes of the Agreement and these Bylaws, has the power to:

- 1. Adopt and amend the Authority's Bylaws;
- 2. Adopt an Annual Operating Budget.
- 3. Approve or reject agencies applying to become Member Agencies;
- 4. Elect and remove the risk manager and officers of the Authority;

- 5. Establish an executive committee or any other committees and delegate to them functions not otherwise reserved to the Board;
- 6. Contract with consultants and other professional persons or firms, as it considers necessary to carry out the purposes of the Agreement;
- 7. Authorize risk management audits to review the participation of each Member Agency in the Program;
- 8. Authorize any officer, staff member, or agent of the Authority to execute any contract in the name of and on behalf of the Authority, and such authorization may be general or specific in nature; however, unless so authorized, no officer, staff member or agent shall have any power to bind the Authority by contract;
- 9. Approve loss analysis controls by use of statistical analysis, data processing, record and file keeping services in order to help identify high exposure operations and evaluate proper levels of self-retention and possible deductibles;
- 10. Approve plans to assist Member Agencies in maintaining current, complete, and accurate building and contents values by location for insured properties;
- 11. Conduct all necessary actions in concluding and dissolving the business affairs of the Authority, including determining the distributions to Member Agencies upon termination of the Authority;
- 12. Approve specific risks for which the Authority intends to provide protection;
- 13. Determine the necessity for and amount of any contribution surcharge that may be imposed because of circumstances described in Article X.C.1. and 2. of these Bylaws; and
- 14. Act in furtherance of the Agreement and these Bylaws.

#### F. ADDITIONAL DUTIES OF THE BOARD

In addition to duties specifically expressed in the Agreement or in the Bylaws, the Board shall:

- 1. Maintain membership in at least one (1) public risk management association.
- 2. Assign at least one (1) Member to attend an annual risk management conference.

#### ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

#### A. PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT

The Board shall elect a president and vice-president from among its Members at its first meeting each calendar year. Thereafter, at its first meeting in each succeeding calendar year, the Board

shall elect a president and vice-president. The term of office of the president and vice president shall be for one (1) year. If either the president or vice-president ceases to be a Member, the resulting vacancy shall be filled at the next regular meeting of the Board which is held after the vacancy occurs. The president shall preside at and conduct all meetings of the Board. In the absence or inability of the president to act, the vice president acts as president. The president also serves as the treasurer of the Authority.

#### B. RISK MANAGER

The risk manager shall be selected and appointed by the Board. The position includes the functions of secretary, chief administrative officer of the Authority, and auditor. The risk manager shall be responsible to the Board for the performance of all functions of the Authority as provided in the Agreement and these Bylaws. In the absence of both the president and vice-president, the risk manager shall preside at and conduct meetings of the Board.

#### C. TREASURER AND AUDITOR

Other than prescribed above, the Board may appoint one of the Authority's officers or employees to serve in the position of either treasurer or auditor, or both of such positions. These offices may be held by separate officers or employees or combined and held by one officer or employee. Such person or persons appointed shall have the powers, duties, and responsibilities as set forth in Government Code Sections 6505, 6505.5 and 6505.6, including the duty to cause an independent annual audit to be made in compliance with Government Code Section 6505.

- 1. The treasurer shall:
  - a. Have the custody of the Authority's funds;
  - b. Disburse the Authority's funds pursuant to the Board's authority;
  - c. Invest and reinvest the Authority's funds in accordance with state law.
- 2. The auditor shall:
  - a. Draw warrants to pay demands against the Authority. The warrants drawn by the auditor shall be reviewed by the Board and approved and ratified at the first meeting of the Board following the draft of the warrants;
  - b. Establish and maintain the funds and accounts in accordance with acceptable accounting practices and shall maintain such other records as the Board requires;
  - c. Within one hundred twenty (120) days after the close of each Fiscal Year, give a complete written report of all financial activities for that Fiscal Year to the Authority for the annual audit by a certified public accountant.

#### D. ASSUMPTION OF DUTIES

Each officer shall assume the duties of his office upon election or appointment, unless otherwise declared by the Board.

#### E. OFFICIAL BOND

The Board shall require the risk manager, treasurer, and auditor to cause to be filed with the Authority an official bond in an amount to be fixed by the Board, but not less than \$500,000. The Authority shall pay the cost of the premiums for each bond required by it. In the alternative, the Authority may utilize and participate in bond coverage by means of a master bond jointly purchased by public agencies.

#### F. REMOVAL AND VACANCIES

The Board may remove an officer at any time. A vacancy in an officer position, because of death, resignation, removal, disqualification, or any other cause, shall be filled by election of the Board.

#### ARTICLE V. LIABILITY OF GOVERNING BOARD, OFFICERS, <u>COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND LEGAL ADVISORS</u>

A. Members, officers, committee members, and legal advisors to the Board or any committees of the Authority shall use ordinary care and reasonable diligence in the exercise of their powers and in the performance of their duties pursuant to the Agreement and Bylaws. They shall not be liable for any mistake of judgment or any other action made, taken or omitted by them in good faith, nor for any action taken or omitted by any agent, employee or independent contractor selected with reasonable care, nor for loss incurred through investment of Authority funds, or failure to invest.

B. No Member, officer, committee member, or legal advisor to the Board or any committee shall be responsible for any action taken or omitted by any other Member, officer, committee member, or legal advisor to the Board or any committee. No Member, officer, committee member, or legal advisor to the Board or any committee shall be required to give a bond or other security to guarantee the faithful performance of their duties pursuant to the Agreement and Bylaws.

C. The Authority shall investigate and defend actions against, and pay on behalf of the Authority, the Board, the individual Members, the officers of the Authority, any committee, the individual committee members and any legal advisor to the Board within the scope of their assigned duties pursuant to Article IV, subject to a limit of liability within the discretion of the Board, all sums that they or any of them become legally obligated to pay as damages because of any act or omission in the performance of their respective duties as provided in the Agreement and in these Bylaws. This coverage shall not apply to intentionally dishonest or fraudulent acts,

or to punitive damages, penalties or sanctions. In the alternative, the Authority may purchase insurance coverage for these exposures, to the extent allowed by law.

D. The risk manager shall contract for all necessary investigation and shall select defense counsel under this Article.

#### ARTICLE VI. BOARD MEETINGS

#### A. REGULAR MEETINGS

- 1. The Board shall hold bi-monthly meetings. Unless otherwise notified pursuant to the Ralph M. Brown Act, these meetings shall be held at 6:00 p.m. on the second Wednesday of every other month (i.e. July, September, November, January, March, and May, or as determined by the Board. The Board may change the meeting date to accommodate any calendar conflicts or cancel a meeting if it's not needed.
- 2. Written notice of each regular meeting of the Board shall be delivered to each Member and/or alternate Member at least seven (7) days in advance of the meeting. The notice shall specify:
  - a. The place, date and hour of the meeting,
  - b. Those matters which are intended to be presented for action by the Board,
  - c. The general nature of any proposal for action by the Board concerning a change in the Agreement or these Bylaws, a change in the membership of the Authority, or any other matter substantially affecting the rights and obligations of the Member Agencies.

#### B. SPECIAL MEETINGS

- 1. A special meeting of the Board may be called at any time by the president of the Board, or by a majority of the Members or by the risk manager subject to the requirements for 24-hour written notice to the members and to requesting representatives of the media provided in Section 54956 of the California Government Code.
- 2. The notice of a special meeting shall specify the time and place of the meeting and the business to be transacted. No other business shall be considered at the meeting.

#### C. RALPH M. BROWN ACT AND CLOSED SESSIONS

1. Each meeting of the Board, including, without limitation, regular, adjourned regular and special meetings, including any closed session, shall be called,

noticed, held, and conducted in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act (Section 54950 et. seq. of the Government Code).

- 2. Closed sessions for pending litigation shall not be semi-closed. Interested members of the public shall not be admitted to a closed session. Closed sessions for pending litigation shall only be attended by Members, legal counsel to the Board, and necessary Authority staff. Persons without an official role in the meeting shall not be present.
- 3. The risk manager, or his alternate, shall attend closed sessions as the sole necessary or required member of the Authority staff.

#### D. PLACE OF MEETINGS

Each regular or special meeting of the Board shall be held at a place within the State of California designated by the Board at its preceding meeting or, if no such designation is made, as designated by the risk manager or the president of the Board.

#### E. RULES OF ORDER AND MINUTES

- 1. The risk manager shall keep minutes of all regular, adjourned regular and special meetings. Within sixty (60) days after the adoption of the minutes of a meeting, the risk manager shall have a copy of the adopted minutes made available online in the Authority's website accessible by each Member and by each Member Agency through their respective accounts. Alternatively, if a Member or a Member Agency has no internet access, the Authority shall provide a copy of said minutes to the Member or Member Agency upon written request.
- 2. All meetings of the Board, and of any committees of the Authority, shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order, provided that in the event of a conflict, such rules shall be superseded by the Agreement, these Bylaws, and California law.

#### F. QUORUM

No business may be transacted without a quorum of the Members being present. A quorum shall consist of four (4) Members. Four Members must vote in favor of a motion to approve it. The Board shall adopt appropriate rules, not inconsistent herewith, for the orderly transaction of its business.

#### G. ADJOURNED MEETINGS

1. The Board may adjourn any regular or special meeting to a time and place specified in the order of adjournment, whether or not a quorum has been

established. If a quorum is not established, no business other than adjournment may be conducted.

2. A copy of the order for adjournment shall be posted as required by Section 54955 of the California Government Code. No other notice of an adjourned meeting shall be necessary, unless the transacted adjournment is for a period of thirty (30) days or more, in which case notice of the adjourned meeting shall be given in the same manner as notice of the original meeting.

## ARTICLE VII. MEMBERSHIP

## A. NEW MEMBER AGENCIES

- 1. Public entities that have applied for membership may be approved by the Board and may be admitted to the Program at any time. The Board shall have the sole discretion to admit or reject new Member Agencies. In and through their application for, and acceptance of membership, new Member Agencies shall agree to accept, comply with, and be bound by all the provisions of the Agreement and Bylaws.
- 2. The agency requesting membership shall supply all loss experience and risk exposure data together with any other relevant information requested by the risk manager.

### B. CANCELLATION

The Authority shall have the right to cancel any Member Agency's participation in the Program upon two-thirds vote of the Board. Any Member Agency so canceled shall, on the effective date of the cancellation, be treated the same as if the Member Agency had voluntarily withdrawn from the Program.

### C. WITHDRAWAL

- 1. A Member Agency may withdraw only at the end of a Fiscal Year of the Authority, provided it has given the Authority a twelve-month written notice of its intent to withdraw from this Agreement and the Program, except as otherwise permitted by the Board.
- 2. Any Member Agency that withdraws as a party to this Agreement pursuant to this Article shall not be reconsidered for new membership until the expiration of five years from the Member Agency's withdrawal. However, the Board in its discretion may approve an exception to this rule for a particular applicant.

## D. EFFECT OF WITHDRAWAL

- 1. The withdrawal of any Member Agency from this Agreement shall not terminate this Agreement and no Member Agency, by withdrawing, shall be entitled to payment or return of any contribution, consideration, or property paid or donated by the Member Agency to the Authority, or to any distribution of assets.
- 2. The withdrawal of any Member Agency after the effective date of the Program shall not terminate its responsibility to contribute its share of contributions to the program until all claims, or other unpaid liabilities, covering the period the Member Agency was signatory hereto have been finally resolved and a determination of the final amount of payments due by the Member Agency or credits to the Member Agency for the period of its membership has been made by the Board. In connection with this determination, the Board may exercise similar powers to those provided for in Article 10 (Termination) of the Agreement.

## ARTICLE VIII. ACCOUNTS, RECORDS, AND AUDITS

## A. ACCESSIBILITY OF BOOKS AND RECORDS

Books and records of the Authority in the possession of the auditor shall be open to inspection at all reasonable times by designated representatives of the Member Agencies.

### B. AUDITS

- 1. The Authority shall contract with a certified public accountant for an annual audit of the accounts and records of the Authority at the end of each Fiscal Year. The minimum requirements of the audit shall be those prescribed by the State Controller under Government Code Section 26909 and shall conform to generally accepted auditing standards.
- 2. Within six months after Board approval, the risk manager shall have a copy of the audit report accessible online in the Authority's website by Member Agencies through their accounts. Alternatively, if a Member Agency has no internet access, the Authority shall provide a copy of said Board-approved audit report to Member Agencies who request so in writing.
- 3. The Authority shall bear the costs of the audit. These costs are a charge against the operating funds of the Authority.

## C. AUTHORIZATION OF PAYMENTS

Before payment by the treasurer of any invoices, billings, and claims for payment of losses, such documents must be approved and signed by the president, vice president, or the risk manager or his or her designee.

## ARTICLE IX. <u>NOTICES</u>

A. Notice to a Member Agency under this Agreement and Bylaws shall be sufficient if made available online in the Authority's website accessible through the Member Agency's online account, or electronically mailed to the Member Agency's designated primary contact, or mailed to the office of the Governing Board of the Member Agency.

B. Notice to the Authority shall be sufficient if mailed to the office of the risk manager.

### ARTICLE X. CONTRIBUTIONS

## A. CONTRIBUTION CHARGE

- 1. The risk manager shall calculate annually the amount of the contribution charge for each Member Agency's Basic Risk Coverages. The risk manager may seek the assistance of an actuary, risk management consultant or other qualified person, in calculating the contribution charge for each Member Agency's Basic Risk Coverages. The risk manager shall make estimated calculations, obtain approval of the Board, and shall distribute the contribution charge bills at least thirty (30) days before the end of the Fiscal Year preceding the year for which the annual contribution charges apply.
- 2. The risk manager shall determine the annual contribution charge for each Member Agency for each type of coverage under Basic Risk Coverages upon the basis of a cost allocation plan and rating formula developed and approved by the Board. The annual contribution charge for each Member Agency shall include that Member Agency's prorated share of excess insurance contribution or premium and/or reinsurance costs; charge for pooled risk, recognizing the deductible selected and including a margin for contingencies as determined by the Board; claims adjusting and legal cost; and administrative costs and other costs to operate the Authority. The risk manager shall also consider each Member Agency's loss history and loss exposure together with the performance of each Program (coverage) in making the calculations of the annual contribution for each Member Agency.

### B REBATES

The Board shall have the authority to rebate the proportionate shares of any surplus funds in a Fiscal Year to that Fiscal Year's Member Agencies. The Board may require that any such rebates be applied in reduction of future contributions.

## C. CONTRIBUTION SURCHARGE

- 1. If the Authority experiences unusually severe losses or an unusually large number of losses under any part of the Program in a Fiscal Year, such that notwithstanding reinsurance coverage for large individual losses, the Authority's insurance funds for that part of the Program may be exhausted before the next annual contributions are due, the Board may, upon consultation with an actuary, impose contribution surcharges on all participating Member Agencies.
- 2. If it is determined by the Board, upon consultation with an actuary, that the Authority's insurance funds for a part of the Program are insufficient to (a) pay losses, (b) fund known estimated losses, and (c) fund estimated losses which have been incurred but not reported, the Board may impose a surcharge on all participating Member Agencies.
- 3. Contribution surcharges imposed pursuant to (1) and (2) above shall be in an amount which will assure adequate funds for the part(s) of the Program to be actuarially sound; provided that the contribution surcharge to any participating Member Agency shall not exceed an amount equal to three (3) times the Member Agency's annual contribution for that Fiscal Year, unless otherwise determined by the Board. No contribution for that Fiscal Year may be assessed, unless ninety days (90) prior to the Board taking action to determine the amount of the surcharge, the Authority provides notice pursuant to the Bylaws to each participating Member Agency. The Authority shall, upon request by a Member Agency, provide the requesting Member Agency a copy of the actuarial study upon which the recommended contribution surcharge is based.
- 4. A Member Agency which has withdrawn or has been terminated at the time a contribution surcharge is assessed, but which was a participating Member Agency during the Fiscal Year(s) for which the contribution surcharge is being assessed, shall pay such contribution surcharges as it would have otherwise been assessed in accordance with the provisions of (1), (2) and (3) above.

### D. INSTALLMENT PLANS

Member Agencies shall be permitted to pay their respective annual contribution charge in periodic installments consistent with Board-approved policy.

## E. TIMELINESS OF PAYMENTS

- 1. A Member Agency's payment for the annual contribution charge is due and payable on or by July 1 of the Fiscal Year for which the Authority is providing Basic Risk Coverages. Unless the Board has authorized installment payments, failure of a Member Agency to pay its annual contribution charge in full by August 1 shall constitute sufficient grounds for the Board to immediately cancel the Member Agency's certificate of protection.
- 2. Any bill other than for the annual contribution charge is due to be paid within thirty (30) days from the date when said bill was mailed to the Member Agency.
- 3. The Board may adopt a penalty policy for any late payment of any bill, including, but not limited to, for contribution charges, contribution surcharges, and any adjustment. For the Authority to be able to impose a late-payment penalty against a Member Agency, the Authority, at least thirty (30) days prior to a bill's payment due date, must have provided notice of the adopted penalty policy to the Member Agency pursuant to the notice provisions in the Agreement and Bylaws. Any penalty policy adopted by the Board may be applied against a Member Agency, whether active, terminated or withdrawn.
- 4. Any and all costs and attorney's fees incurred by the Authority associated, in any way whatsoever, with the collection of contribution charges, contribution surcharges, adjustments, penalties, or any other bill shall be recoverable by the Authority. Upon approval by the Board, if a Member Agency does not pay a bill past due for at least ninety (90) days, the Authority may offset the amount due, in whole or in part, against one or more reimbursement requests submitted by the Member Agency.

#### ARTICLE XI. COVERAGES

## A. BASIC RISK COVERAGES

The Basic Risk Coverages contribution charge referred to in Article X above is payment for the coverage provided by the Authority to each Member Agency for the Basic Risk Coverages specified in the Memoranda of Coverage and Certificates of Coverage. The Board may, but is not required, to use standard form policies. The scope of Basic Risk Coverages in the pool shall be determined by the Board. Each Member Agency by the act of paying the contribution charge accepts the Basic Risk Coverages provided by the Authority.

### B. PROPERTY COVERAGE

In case of property coverage, such as fire, the policy limits shall be at or greater than the amount of the insurable replacement value of all the property of each of the Member Agencies which the

Member Agencies and Authority agree to be covered. The agreed valuation shall be updated annually according to the revised values to be furnished by each Member Agency, which have been obtained as prescribed in Article 9.A.6. of the JPA Agreement.

## C. EFFECTIVE DATE

Pursuant to the payment of contributions by each Member Agency to the Authority, the Authority shall issue to each Member Agency a COC and MOC, indicating the coverage provided to the Member Agency by the Authority. The coverage provided by the policy begins for each Member Agency on such date as set forth in the MOC and shall expire at the end of each Fiscal Year of the Authority.

### D. SUBROGATION

The Authority shall have the first right to any subrogation recovery. Each subrogation action shall be brought on behalf of both the Member Agency and the Authority. The Authority may pursue subrogation only as respects a Covered Loss.

### E. SPECIAL COVERAGES

The Board may, from time to time, adopt special changes to cover additional or lesser risks. A reasonable surcharge may be imposed when the activities of a Member Agency increases the risk to the membership pool. A special change could also be made by the Board upon the request of one or more Member Agencies for additional coverage with the cost of such additional coverage to be paid by the requesting Member Agencies.

### F. ADDITIONAL INSURANCE COVERAGES

The Authority shall have the power and authority to establish and offer to all public agencies, whether a Member Agency or not, programs consisting of additional insurance coverages, which may, but are not required to, involve employee fringe benefit plans. Participation in any proffered program of additional insurance coverage shall be voluntary on the part of any Member Agency and shall not affect their participation in the Basic Risk Coverages provided. Selection of particular programs or plans to be offered shall be made by the Governing Board. The Board shall establish the contribution charges including administration costs, method of payments of contributions, and manner and method of administering each such plan or program.

### G. WORKERS' COMPENSATION PENALTIES

Any and all penalties assessed against the Authority by the Division of Workers' Compensation shall be paid as follows:

1. Penalties assessed due to the failure of a Member Agency (Employer) to comply with the time requirements or reporting requirements as stated in the Workers' Compensation law shall be paid by the Member Agency (Employer).

2. Penalties assessed due to the failure of the Authority (Insurer) to comply with the time requirements or reporting requirements as stated in the Workers' Compensation law shall be paid by the Authority.

## ARTICLE XII. SETTLEMENT AUTHORITY

A. The Authority shall have the power and authority to negotiate the settlement of any Claim against a Member Agency involving public entity liability or workers' compensation without the consent of the Member Agency, except that consent shall be necessary only if the settlement amount will exceed the Authority's limit of liability.

B. Affected Member Agencies shall have the right to provide the Board with any input or information desired on any pending Claim at any time. The Board shall consider this input in making its decisions on settlements.

#### ARTICLE XIII. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

## A. NEGOTIATION

The risk manager shall investigate the facts of the dispute and, if necessary, obtain a legal opinion from the Authority's counsel on any legal issues. The Member Agency may submit a factual statement and a legal opinion, together with any substantiation thereof, to the risk manager. The risk manager shall then attempt to negotiate a resolution of the dispute. Any negotiated resolution shall be taken to the Board for confirmation and approval. If negotiation fails, and the disputed matter is within the authority of the risk manager, the risk manager shall decide the matter in the best interests of the Authority.

## B. APPEAL TO THE BOARD

- 1. If the Member Agency is dissatisfied with the decision of the risk manager, or if the dispute is unresolved because negotiation failed, the Member Agency may appeal in writing to the Board. This appeal shall be requested by the Member Agency within thirty (30) days of the date of the Risk Manger's decision, or of the date on which the risk manager notifies the Member Agency of the determination that negotiation had failed. Upon receipt of the appeal, the matter shall be set for hearing by the Board at the next available regular Board meeting.
- 2. The risk manager and the Member Agency shall each submit in writing, at least ten (10) days in advance of the Board meeting, a description of the dispute and any additional relevant facts, a factual and/or legal argument, and the desired resolution. The Board shall consider all information provided, including any oral presentations, in making its decision. The Board may require the Member Agency and/or the risk manager to provide additional information and, as necessary, may continue the hearing. Any Board member that is a member of the governing board of the appealing Member Agency shall be disqualified from participating in

the appeal. The Board shall direct that written notice of its decision be prepared and served by mail on the appealing member agency within ten (10) working days.

## C. RECONSIDERATION

Within ten (10) days after notice of the decision by the Board, the Member Agency may request a hearing by the Board to reconsider its decision. This request for reconsideration shall be in writing and must be based solely upon newly discovered facts or other information not previously considered. The Member Agency shall submit this newly discovered information in writing for consideration by the Board at its next available Board meeting. The Board may allow oral presentations at the hearing. Any Board member that is a member of the governing board of the appealing Member Agency shall be disqualified from participating in the request for reconsideration.

## D. ARBITRATION OR MEDIATION

If the Member Agency is not satisfied with the Board's decision on appeal, it may pursue arbitration or mediation. By means of mutual agreement between the Member Agency and the risk manager, the parties may select binding or non-binding arbitration, mediation, use of counsel in the proceedings, and other procedural matters. The cost of arbitration or mediation shall be borne equally by the Member Agency and the Authority, and each party shall be responsible for its own attorney(s) fees, if attorneys are utilized. Any decision in binding arbitration shall be final and complied with by the parties. Should the parties desire to submit the matter to mediation, the mediation shall be conducted as if court-ordered pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure Section 1775, *et seq.* (without any monetary limitation). Should the parties desire that the matter be submitted to arbitration, the arbitration shall be conducted pursuant to the rules of the American Arbitration Association.

## E. LITIGATION

If the Member Agency or the risk manager is not satisfied with the result in non-binding arbitration, or if mediation fails to produce a mutually satisfactory resolution of the dispute, either party may pursue litigation to resolve the dispute. The risk manager may not commence litigation without the approval of the Board. Any litigation shall be subject to the applicable claims and limitations requirements of the Tort Claims Act. The prevailing party in any such litigation shall be entitled to their reasonable attorney(s) fees and costs from the losing party.

## ARTICLE XIV. AMENDMENTS

These Bylaws may be amended at any time by a majority vote of the Governing Board. Within thirty (30) days following adoption of amendments, the risk manager shall prepare a copy of the amended Bylaws and make it available pursuant to approved notice provisions. Form: A-2 (1-2016) | Page 1

State of California Department of Industrial Relations Office of Self-Insurance Plans 11050 Olson Drive, Suite 230 Rancho Cordova,Ca. 95670 Phone (916) 464-7000 Fax (916) 464-7007



#### State of California Department of Industrial Relations OFFICE OF SELF-INSURANCE PLANS

## APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF CONSENT TO SELF-INSURE AS A PUBLIC AGENCY EMPLOYER SELF-INSURER All questions must be answered. If not applicable, enter "N/A".

**To the Director of the Department of Industrial Relations:** The public agency employer identified below submits the following information to obtain a Certificate of Consent to Self-Insure the payment of workers' compensation under California Labor Code Section 3700.

LEGAL NAME OF APPLICANT (Show exactly as on Charter or other official documents):

Address:				
City:		State:	Zip + 4:	
Federal Tax ID # of Group	o:			
CONTACT - Who Should	Correspondence Reg	arding This Ap	plicant Be Address	sed To:
Name:		Title	9:	
Company Name:				
Address:				
City:				
Phone:	E-	Mail:		
TYPE OF PUBLIC ENTIT	Y (Check one):			
City and/or County	School District	Police and/	or Fire District	Hospital District
Joint Powers Author	ity Other (descrit	be):		
TYPE OF APPLICATION	(Check one):			
New Application	Reapplication (Merg	er/Unification)	Reapplicatio	n (Name Change)
Other (describe):				
Date Self-Insurance Prog	ram will begin:			

CURRENT WORK	ERS' COMPENSATION PROGRAM
Currently Insured with State Fund Policy	# Expiration Date:
Currently Self Insured, Certificate #	
Other (describe):	
Who will be administering your agency's worke	MS ADMINISTRATION
JPA will administer	
Third Party Administrator, TPA Certificate	#
Public entity will self-administer	Insurance Carrier will administer
Name of Third Party Administrator:	
Name:	Title:
Company Name:	
Address:	
City:	State: Zip + 4:
Phone: E	-Mail:
# of claims reporting locations to be used to ha	andle Agency's claims:
Does applicant currently have a California Cert	ificate of Consent to Self-Insure? Yes No
If yes, what is the current Certificate N	umber:
Total Number of Affiliate's California employee	s to be covered by Group:
	# of Public Safety Employees (police//fire):
If school District, # of certificated employees:	
Will all Agency employees be covered by this s	elf-insurance plan? Yes No
If 'No', explain who is not covered and how wo excluded employees:	rkers' compensation coverage will be provided to the

	JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
Will applican	t be a member of a JPA for workers' compensation ?
Yes	No (If 'yes', complete the following)
Effective dat	e of JPA Membership: JPA Certificate #
Name of JP/	A:
	AGENCY SAFETY PROGRAM
Does the Ag	ency have a written Injury and Illness Prevention Program (IIPP)? Yes No
Individual rea	sponsible for Agency workplace safety and IIPP program:
Name:	Title:
Company Na	ame:
Address:	
City:	State: Zip + 4:
Phone:	E-Mail:
	SUPPLEMENTAL COVERAGE
	program be supplemented by any insurance or pooled coverage under a <b>STANDARD</b> npensation insurance policy? Yes No (If 'Yes', complete the following):
Name of Exc	cess Pool/Carrier:
Policy #:	Effective Date of Coverage:
	program be supplemented by any insurance or pooled coverage under a <b>SPECIFIC</b> rkers' compensation insurance policy? Yes No (If 'Yes', complete the following):
Name of Exc	cess Pool/Carrier:
Policy #:	Effective Date of Coverage:
Retention Li	nits:
EXCESS (st	program be supplemented by any insurance or pooled coverage under an <b>AGGREGATE</b> op loss) specific excess workers' compensation insurance policy? Yes No oplete the following):
Name of Exc	cess Pool/Carrier:
Policy #:	Effective Date of Coverage:
Retention Li	nits:

#### RESOLUTION FROM GOVERNING BOARD

Attach a properly executed Governing Board Resolution. See attached sample resolution on page 5.

#### CERTIFICATION

The undersigned on behalf of the applicant hereby applies for a Certificate of Consent to Self-Insure the payment of workers' compensation liabilities pursuant to Labor Code Section 3700. The above information is submitted for the purpose of procuring said Certificate from the Director of Industrial Relations, State of California. If the Certificate is issued, the applicant agrees to comply with applicable California statutes and regulations pertaining to the payment of compensation that may become due to the applicant's employees covered by the Certificate.

X SIGNED: Authorized Official / Representative	DATE:
Printed Name	
Title	
Agency Name	

RESOLUTION NO.:	DATED:

#### A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION TO THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS, STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR A CERTIFICATE OF CONSENT TO SELF-INSURE WORKERS' COMPENSATION LIABILITIES

At a meeting of the	(Enter Name of the Board)	
of the		
(Enter Nam	e of Public Agency, District, Etc.)	
a	organized and exi	sting under the
(Enter Type of Agency, i.e., County, City, School District, et	tc.)	
laws of the State of California, held on th	e day of	, 20,

the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that the above named public agency is authorized and empowered to make application to the Director of Industrial Relations, State of California, for a Certificate of Consent to Self-Insure workers' compensation liabilities and representatives of Agency are authorized to execute any and all documents required for such application.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF: I HAVE SIGNED AND AFFIXED THE AGENCY SEAL.

X SIGNED: Board Secretary or Chair	DATE:
Printed Name	
Title	Affix Seal Here
Agency Name	



Phone: Station 1 (530) 832-1008 Fax: (530) 832-5828 fireprotectplumas@gmail.com 180 Main St. Beckwourth, CA 96129

# **Board Members**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024.03** 

Rich McLaughlin President	A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE BECKWOURTH PEAK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT AUTHORIZING THE BOARD PRESIDENT OR THE FIRE CHIEF TO ACCEPT, SIGN AND RECORD CERTAIN RECORDABLE DOCUMENTS
Daniel Smith Vice-President	ACCEPT, SIGN AND RECORD CERTAIN RECORDABLE DOCOMENTS
Cary Curtis Director	WHEREAS, from time to time various persons or agencies offer to or are required to transfer interests
Melissa Klundby Director	in real estate to the Beckwourth Peak Fire Protection District (District), or to agree to the recordation of a notice with respect to their property or to otherwise restrict their property; and
Larry Smith Director	WHEREAS, from time to time the District is asked to release or abandon interests in real property it owns but does not need; and
Interim Fire Chief Kenny Osburn	
<b>Admin. Officer</b> Heather Grant	WHEREAS, Government Code Section 27281provides that the county recorder shall not accept certain of the above described documents for recordation without receiving a resolution from the District authorizing the recordation of same; and
	WHEREAS, Government Code Section 27281 further provides that the District may, by resolution, authorize one or more of its officers to accept and/or consent to the recordation of such documents; and

WHEREAS, by authorizing the Board President or Fire Chief to accept and/or consent to the recordation of such documents following the Board's consideration and direction of request concerning specific interests in real property, it will not be necessary for the Board of Directors to consider the approval of each such document at a Board meeting and adopt a resolution consenting thereto;



Phone: Station 1 (530) 832-1008 Fax: (530) 832-5828 fireprotectplumas@gmail.com 180 Main St. Beckwourth, CA 96129

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Beckwourth Peak Fire Protection District that it hereby authorizes, the Board President or Fire Chief of the Beckwourth Peak Fire Protection District following consideration and direction by the Board of requests concerning specific interests in real property as follows:

- 1. To accept and consent to the recordation of any deeds or other documents which grant fee title, easements or any other interest in real estate to the District.
- 2. Further, the Board President or Fire Chief is hereby directed to submit to the Board of Directors in January of each year a report of all real property and easements accepted or abandoned during the previous year.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2024 by the following vote:

Ayes:

Noes:

Board Clerk Attest:

Heather Grant, Clerk of the Board