



Orting Valley Fire and Rescue

Pierce County Fire District 18
P.O. Box 386 Orting, WA 98360
Phone: (360) 893-2221 Fax: (360) 893-8524

Resolution 2018-013

A RESOLUTION of the Board of Fire Commissioners (the "Board") of Pierce County Fire Protection District No. 18, (the "District") establishing charges for reimbursement for initiating services on unprotected lands outside its fire protection jurisdiction and for which the District does not have a contract for services.

THIS RESOLUTION SUPERSEDES AND REPLACES RESOLUTION 2018-011 AND RESOLUTION 2018-012.

WHEREAS, the District, from time to time, may initiate fire prevention services, fire suppression services, emergency medical services, and other services related to the protection of life and property (the "Services") on unprotected land outside its fire protection jurisdiction, not within any other fire protection district, a regional fire protection service authority, a city, a town, a port district, lands protected by the department of natural resources under Chapter 76.04 RCW, or on federal land, and for which the District does not have a written contract for services (the "Unprotected Lands");

WHEREAS, pursuant to RCW 52.12.160(3), the District is authorized to initiate Services on Unprotected Land in the following instances: (a) service was specifically requested by a landowner or other fire service protection agency; (b) service could reasonably be believed to prevent the spread of a fire onto lands protected by the District; or (c) service could reasonably be believed to substantially mitigate the risk of harm to life or property by preventing the spread of a fire onto other Unprotected Lands;

WHEREAS, pursuant to RCW 52.12.160(4)(a), property owner(s) of the Unprotected Lands must reimburse the District when initiating Services on Unprotected Land for actual costs that are incurred that are proportionate to the fire itself;

WHEREAS, pursuant to RCW 52.12.160(4)(a), cost recovery is based upon the Washington fire chiefs standardized fire service fee schedule;

WHEREAS, pursuant to RCW 52.12.160(4)(b), if a property owner fails to pay or defaults in payment to the District for services rendered, the District is entitled to pursue payment through the collections process outlined in RCW 19.16.500 or through initiation of court action;

WHEREAS, under Resolution 2016-007, the District has adopted a separate schedule of fees for the provision of ambulance services, including transport to local hospitals, which may be charged in addition to the charges provided herein;

WHEREAS, the District desires to institute a policy to ensure consistency in billing and the collection of charges for Services on Unprotected Land, while recognizing that the cost to collect should not exceed the amount of the bill.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED,

Section 1. “Unprotected Lands,” as used herein, shall mean an improved property located outside a fire protection jurisdiction, and for which the District does not have a written contract for services.

Section 2. “Improved Property,” as used herein, shall mean property upon which a structure is located, including bridges and agricultural structures as defined in RCW 19.27.015.

Section 3. “Fire Protection Jurisdiction,” as used herein, shall mean an area or property located within a fire protection district, a regional fire protection service authority, a city, a town, a port district, lands protected by the department of natural resources under Chapter 76.04 RCW, or on federal lands.

Section 4. “Services,” as used herein, shall mean the provision of fire prevention services, fire suppression services, emergency medical services, and other services related to the protection of life and property.

Section 5. The Board will charge for actual costs incurred in providing Services to Unimproved Lands as allowed by RCW 52.12.160.

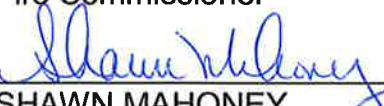
Section 6. The Chief of the District is authorized and directed to collect the established charges in accordance with the following procedures:


- (A) The District or its agent shall issue a billing statement to the recipient of the Fire Response no later than fourteen (14) days after the services have been rendered.
- (B) For bills not paid within thirty (30) days after the initial billing, a follow-up billing statement shall be sent.
- (C) For bills not paid within thirty (30) days after the follow-up billing statement, a final billing statement shall be sent.
- (D) For bills not paid within thirty (30) days after the final billing, (i) the District may initiate legal action to collect the debt, (ii) the debt may be assigned to a collection agency pursuant to RCW 19.16.500, or (iii) if appropriate, the debt may be written off as uncollectable at the discretion of the Fire Chief.
- (E) The District reserves the right to waive any bill on a case-by-case basis if financial hardship is demonstrated by the recipient of the service.

ADOPTED by the Board of Fire Commissioners of Pierce County Fire Protection District No. 18, at an open public meeting thereof this 2nd day of October 2018, of which notice was given in the manner provided by law, the following Commissioners being present and voting.


Pierce County Fire Protection District No. 18.

By: 
TOM MARINO
Fire Commissioner

By: 
SHAWN MAHONEY
Fire Commissioner

By: 
ARLENE DANNAT
Fire Commissioner

By: 
KEVIN GORDER
Fire Commissioner

By: 
MARGARET O'HARRA BUTTZ
Fire Commissioner

ATTEST:


KIM KEMP, District Secretary
Board of Fire Commissioners