

EXHIBIT D

PETITION FOR MERGER

The Board of Fire Commissioners of Lewis County Fire Protection District No. 17 ("Lewis 17"), pursuant to RCW 52.06.020, petition the Board of Fire Commissioners of Pierce County Fire Protection District No. 23 ("Pierce 23") (collectively, the "Districts") for a merger of the Districts pursuant to RCW 52.06 RCW.

WHEREAS, the Districts are within a reasonable proximity and near enough to each other so that governance, management, and services can be delivered effectively;

WHEREAS, the merger of the Districts would increase efficiency and effectiveness in the delivery of those services authorized by law to be performed by the Districts;

WHEREAS, the merger of the Districts would achieve economies in operation and maintenance of equipment that are not feasible to achieve as separate districts;

NOW THEREFORE, the merger should be accomplished under the following terms and conditions:

1. Lewis 17 shall be considered the "merging district" and shall cease to exist after the merger.
2. Pierce 23 shall be considered the "merger district" and shall survive the merger.
3. The two combined or merged districts shall then constitute one District, having the boundaries therefore enjoyed by the two Districts.
4. The Board of Commissioners of the merged Fire Protection District shall consist of the duly elected Fire Commissioners of the two prior Districts, initially, in accordance with RCW 52.06.085, upon the effective date of the merger.
5. All of the statutory provisions of RCW 52.06 regarding mergers of fire districts shall be followed and observed by both Districts.
6. The effective date of the merger shall be the date of the concurrent resolutions of the Districts approving the merger following an election of the voters of District 17 at the special election to be held on February 11, 2024, or as otherwise mutually agreed upon by the Districts.
7. All assets of Lewis 17 shall become assets of Pierce 23 once the merger is effective.
8. Lewis 17 shall serve as the lead agency for all purposes related to the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) and the Boundary Review Board Statute (RCW 36.93), in connection with the merger process.

FURTHERMORE, pursuant to its authority in RCW 52.06.020, the Board of Commissioners of Lewis 17 hereby petitions the Board of Commissioners of Pierce 23 to approve the merger of Lewis 17 into Pierce 23.

ADOPTED by the Board of Fire Commissioners of Lewis County Fire Protection District No. 17, at a regularly scheduled open public meeting thereof this 9 day of October, 2024, of which notice was given in the manner provided by law, the following Fire Commissioners being present and voting.

**LEWIS COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION
DISTRICT NO. 17**

By: 
Dennis Day, Commissioner

By: 
Thomas O'Haver, Commissioner

By: 
Nicolas Waruszewski, Commissioner

ATTEST:


Julie Day, District Secretary

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, Secretary of Lewis County Fire Protection District No. 17, (the "District"), hereby certify as follows:

1. The attached copy of Petition for Merger (the "Petition") is a full, true, and correct copy of the Petition duly adopted at a regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the District (the "Board") held on the 9 day of October, 2024, as the Petition appears on the minute book of the District, and the Petition is now in full force and effect.

2. The regular meeting was held in accordance with law.

3. A quorum of the members of the Board was present throughout the meeting and a majority of those members present voted in the proper manner for the adoption of the Petition.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 9 day of October, 2024.



Julie Day, District Secretary
Board of Fire Commissioners

PIERCE COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 23

RESOLUTION NO. 24-002

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF PIERCE COUNTY
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 23, REGARDING A PROPOSED MERGER
WITH LEWIS COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 17.**

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners of Lewis County Fire Protection District No. 17 has filed a petition with the Board of Fire Commissioners of Pierce County Fire Protection District No. 23, indicating a desire to merge with Pierce County Fire Protection District No. 23.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

1. The Board of Fire Commissioners of Pierce County Fire Protection District No. 23 declares Lewis County Fire Protection District No. 17 as the "lead agency" for all purposes under SEPA, as related to the proposed merger with Pierce County Fire Protection District No. 23.

2. The Board of Fire Commissioners of Pierce County Fire Protection District No. 23 approves the petition to merge as presented, upon the following terms and conditions:

- (a) The merger shall be effective upon adoption of the concurrent resolutions declaring the districts merged, after certification of the election results.
- (b) Prior to such effective date, the two districts will continue consolidated operations.
- (c) Lewis County Fire Protection District No. 17 shall be considered the "merging District" and shall cease to exist after the merger.
- (d) Pierce County Fire Protection District No. 23 shall be considered the "merger District" and shall therefore survive the merger.
- (e) The two combined or "merged districts" shall then constitute one District, having the boundaries theretofore enjoyed by the two Districts.
- (f) The Board of Commissioners of the merged Fire Protection District shall consist of the duly elected Fire Commissioners of the two prior districts, initially, in accordance with RCW 52.06.085, upon the effective date of the merger. Hereafter, all commissioner elections and vacancies in the merger district shall be done pursuant to RCW 52.06.085.
- (g) All of the statutory provisions of RCW 52.06 regarding mergers of Fire Districts shall be followed and observed by both Districts, with the eventual composition of the merged district Board totaling three commissioners.

3. The Board of Fire Commissioners of Pierce County Fire Protection District No. 23 directs, pursuant to RCW 52.06.030, that a copy of this resolution together with the petition, shall be transmitted to the merging district, Lewis County Fire Protection District No. 17, which is hereby requested, pursuant to RCW 52.06.030, to adopt a resolution requesting the county auditor to call an election in the merging district, as specified under RCW 29A.04.330, for the purpose of presenting the question of the merger to the appropriate electors (registered voters).

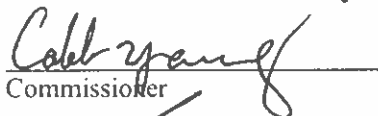
4. The Board of Fire Commissioners of Pierce County Fire Protection District No. 23 recognizes that this merger proposal may be subject to the jurisdiction of the Boundary Review Board for Lewis County, as per RCW 52.06.010. The Board therefore directs that Lewis County Fire Protection District No. 17 file the necessary papers with such body as soon as reasonably practicable.

5. The obligations of the merged districts shall not be affected in any way by this merger. All land liable to be assessed to pay any indebtedness shall remain liable to the same extent as if the districts had not been merged. Any assessments previously levied against any land shall remain unimpaired and shall be collected in the same manner as if the districts had not merged. The commissioners of the merged districts shall have all the powers of the two districts to levy, assess, and cause to be collected all assessments against any land in either district that may be necessary to pay for the indebtedness thereof. Until the assessments are collected and all indebtedness of the districts paid, separate funds shall be maintained for each district as were maintained before the merger.

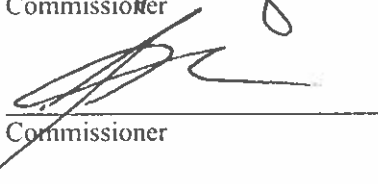
ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners for Pierce County Fire Protection District No. 23 this 14th day of October, 2024.



Commissioner



Commissioner



Commissioner

Attest:

District Secretary



Lewis County Assessor

Ross Nielson
Assessor

Lynn Richard
Chief Deputy

Chris Lanegan
Chief Appraiser

CERTIFICATE OF ASSESSED VALUATION

I, Ross Nielson, as Assessor of Lewis County, Washington, HEREBY CERTIFY that the value of taxable property within Lewis County for Fire Protection District No. 17, as fixed in 2023 for the purpose of 2024 property tax levies, is \$103,583,575.

DATED as of August 8, 2024

LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ross Nielson", written over a horizontal line.

Ross Nielson
Assessor