

NOTICE OF MEASURE ELECTION AND RECEIPT OF BALLOT TITLE

Filed in the Office of County Clerk 2/24/2023

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a ballot title for a measure referred by Vernonia Rural Fire Protection District has been filed with the Columbia County Clerk on February 24, 2023. The measure election will be conducted by mail and will be held on Tuesday, May 16, 2023.

The ballot title caption is: Vernonia Fire District seeks replacement levy to increase firefighter staffing

Caption

Vernonia Fire District seeks replacement levy to increase firefighter staffing

Question

Shall VRFPD Levy taxes in the amount of \$2.50 per thousand to implement and maintain 24 hour per day staffing. This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent.

Summary

Vernonia Rural Fire Protection District (VRFPD) seeks to implement and maintain 24 hour per day emergency response capabilities. This replacement levy allows the fire district to maintain funding for two (2) current firefighter EMT's, and one (1) Deputy Fire Chief, as well as hiring additional firefighter-advanced EMS providers to better serve the community and provide emergency ambulance transport services as necessary.

The Fire District has seen a 17% increase in call volume between 2021 and 2022 and is currently forecasting a 14% increase in 2023 over 2022. As demands for service continue to increase and costs of materials and services skyrocket, the district seeks voter support in allowing us to best serve you.

Funding from this levy allows the fire district to maintain personnel on duty 24 hours per day, and the ability to ensure that advanced ambulance transport services are readily available to the community 24 hours per day.

Estimate of tax to be raised

FY2024- \$796,163.00

FY2025- \$812,086.00

FY2026- \$828,327.00

FY2027- \$844,893.00

FY2028- \$861, 790.00

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that any elector may file a petition for review of this ballot title in the Columbia County Circuit Court no later than 5:00 p.m. March 7th, 2023 (which is the 7th business day after receipt.) ORS 255.155. This notice is published pursuant to ORS 255.145(5) by Debbie Klug, Columbia County Clerk.
