

CHAPTER 237.

[S. B. 23.]

FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICTS.

AN ACT relating to fire protection; amending section 1, chapter 34, Laws of 1939 as last amended by section 1, chapter 254, Laws of 1947, and RCW 52.04.020; amending section 20, chapter 34, Laws of 1939, as last amended by section 6, chapter 254, Laws of 1947, and RCW 52.08.030; amending section 3, chapter 70, Laws of 1941, as last amended by section 5, chapter 254, Laws of 1947, and RCW 52.08.060; amending section 22, chapter 34, Laws of 1939, as last amended by section 1, chapter 238, Laws of 1957, and RCW 52.12.010; amending section 2, chapter 111, Laws of 1955 and RCW 52.22.020; and adding four new sections to chapter 111, Laws of 1955 and to chapter 52.22 RCW.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

SECTION 1. Section 1, chapter 34, Laws of 1939, as last amended by section 1, chapter 254, Laws of 1947, and RCW 52.04.020 are each amended to read as follows: RCW 52.04.020 amended.

Fire protection districts for the elimination of fire hazards and for the protection of life and property in territories outside of cities and towns are hereby authorized to be established as in this act provided. Districts authorized.

SEC. 2. Section 20, chapter 34, Laws of 1939, as last amended by section 6, chapter 254, Laws of 1947, and RCW 52.08.030 are each amended to read as follows: RCW 52.08.030 amended.

Any fire protection district organized under this act shall have authority: Specific powers—Joint operations.

(1) To lease, own, maintain, operate and provide fire engines and all other necessary or proper apparatus, facilities, machinery and equipment for the prevention and extinguishment of fires, and protection of life and property;

(2) To lease, own, maintain and operate real property, improvements and fixtures thereon suit-

Specific
powers—
Joint oper-
ations.

able and convenient for housing, repairing and caring for fire fighting equipment;

(3) To enter into contract with any incorporated city or town whereby such city or town shall furnish fire prevention and fire extinguishment service to the districts and the inhabitants thereof under the provisions of this act upon such terms as the board of directors of the district shall determine. To contract with another county fire protection district, or with any town, city or municipal corporation or governmental agency or private person or persons to consolidate or cooperate for mutual fire fighting protection and prevention purposes. Any city, town, municipal corporation or governmental agency may contract with a county fire protection district established and maintained under the provisions of this act for the purpose of affording such district fire fighting and protection equipment and service or fire prevention facilities, and in so contracting the district, city, town, municipal corporation or other governmental agency shall be deemed for all purposes to act within its governmental capacity. Any county fire protection district established and maintained under the provisions of this act, or any city, town, municipal corporation or other governmental agency is hereby authorized to contract with any person, firm or corporation for the purpose of affording fire fighting, protection or fire prevention facilities to such person, firm or corporation and such contractual relation shall be deemed for all purposes to be within the governmental power of such rural fire protection district, city, town, municipal corporation or other governmental agency;

(4) Fire protection districts situated in different counties may contract to operate jointly in carrying out the objects of their creation. Contracts for joint operation may provide for joint ownership of property and equipment, and may authorize a joint

board of fire commissioners of the contracting districts to manage the affairs of the joint operations; to employ and discharge the necessary agents and employees and fix their respective wages and salaries; to provide and designate a suitable place in any county in which any of the contracting districts is situated, as a regular meeting place for the joint board; to incur the necessary expenses and direct the payment therefor from the funds of the contracting districts in such proportion as the joint boards shall determine; and to do all things as may in the judgment of the joint board be required to carry out the joint operations of the contracting districts.

Specific
powers—Joint
operations.

The joint board shall consist of the members of the boards of the contracting districts and a majority of the membership of each district board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of the joint board. The members of the boards of fire commissioners of the contracting districts shall organize as a joint board annually in January after the second Monday thereof, elect a chairman and appoint a secretary for the ensuing year. Any member of the board of any contracting district may act as secretary of the joint board or the joint board may appoint such other person as the joint board may determine. The joint board shall prepare the annual budget for the joint operation of the contracting districts and shall determine the share of revenues for the joint operation to be raised by each district and the share of the expense of joint operation to be paid by each district in the ensuing year, and the secretary of the joint board shall certify and deliver within the time required by law, to the county auditor of each county involved, the part of the budget to be raised by the district in that county and the tax officials of that county shall levy and collect the tax, and the county treasurer shall pay

Specific
powers—Joint
operations.

vouchers drawn by the joint board on the funds of the district in that county upon warrants issued by the county auditor of that county.

Contracts for joint operation of fire districts, as herein authorized shall run from year to year and as of January 1st may be terminated by written notice of the board of fire commissioners of any contracting district to the other contracting district or districts on or before July 1st and the contract for joint operations shall terminate on January 1st following: *Provided*, That all obligations of the joint operations must be paid or definitely arranged for before contract termination and no notice of termination shall relieve any contracting district of its unpaid obligation incurred under the contract for joint operation;

(5) To encourage uniformity and coordination of fire protection district operation programs, the fire commissioners of two or more fire protection districts, may form an association thereof, for the purpose of securing data and information of value in fighting and in preventing fires; hold and attend meetings thereof; and promote more economical and efficient operation of the associated fire protection districts. The directors of fire protection districts so associated shall adopt articles of association, select a chairman and secretary, and such other officers as they may determine, and may employ and discharge such agents and employees as the officers deem convenient to carry out the purposes of the association. The expenses of the association may be paid from fire protection district expense funds upon vouchers of the respective associated districts: *Provided*, That the aggregate contributions made to the association by any district in any calendar year shall not exceed one-tenth of one mill of the tax valuation of the district;

(6) Two or more fire protection districts may

contract with each other and such a district may contract with a city or county or the state supervisor of forestry or any association approved by him for the joint leasing, ownership, maintenance and operation of all necessary and proper apparatus, facilities, machinery, and equipment for the elimination of fire hazards and for the protection of life and property within the contracting districts, and of real property, improvements and fixtures thereon suitable and convenient for the housing, repairing, and caring for such apparatus, facilities, machinery, and equipment, and may contribute their agreed proportion of the cost and expense thereof;

Such contracts shall be executed by the commissioners of the contracting districts and, when the contract is between such districts, the terms and conditions thereof shall be carried out by the boards of commissioners acting jointly;

(7) To do all things and perform all acts not otherwise prohibited by law.

SEC. 3. Section 3, chapter 70, Laws of 1941, as last amended by section 5, chapter 254, Laws of 1947, and RCW 52.08.060 are each amended to read as follows:

RCW 52.08.060
amended.

Any territory contiguous to a fire protection district and not within the boundaries of a city or town or other fire protection district may be annexed to such fire protection district, for the purpose of obtaining fire fighting protection or prevention facilities, by petition of fifteen percent of the qualified registered electors residing within the territory proposed to be annexed. Such petition shall be filed with the fire commissioners of the fire protection district and if the said fire commissioners shall concur in the said petition they shall then file such petition with the county auditor who shall within thirty days from the date of filing such petition examine the signatures thereof and certify to the

Annexation
of territory.

Annexation
of territory.

sufficiency or insufficiency thereof. After the county auditor shall have certified to the sufficiency of the petition, the proceedings thereafter by the board of county commissioners and the rights and powers and duties of the board of county commissioners, petitioners and objectors and the election and canvass thereof shall be the same as in the original proceedings to form a fire protection district: *Provided*, That the board of county commissioners shall have authority and it shall be its duty to determine on an equitable basis, the amount of obligation which the territory to be annexed to the district shall assume, if any, to place the taxpayers of the existing district on a fair and equitable relationship with the taxpayers of the territory to be annexed by reason of the benefits of coming into a going district previously supported by the taxpayers of the existing district, and such obligation may be paid to the district in yearly installments to be fixed by the county board if within the four mill annual tax limit and included in the annual tax levies against the property in such annexed territory until fully paid. The amount of the obligation and the plan of payment thereof fixed by the county board shall be set out in general terms in the notice of election for annexation: *Provided, however*, That the special election shall be held only within the boundaries of the territory proposed to be annexed to said fire protection district. Upon the entry of the order of the board of county commissioners incorporating such contiguous territory with such existing fire protection districts, said territory shall become subject to the indebtedness, bonded or otherwise, of said existing district in like manner as the territory of said district. Should such petition be signed by all of the qualified registered electors residing within the territory proposed to be annexed, and should the fire commissioners concur therein, an election in such

territory and a hearing on such petition shall be dispensed with and the board of county commissioners shall enter its order incorporating such territory within the said existing fire protection district.

SEC. 4. Section 22, chapter 34, Laws of 1939, as last amended by section 1, chapter 238, Laws of 1957, and RCW 52.12.010 are each amended to read as follows:

RCW 52.12.010 amended.

The affairs of the district shall be managed by a board of fire commissioners composed of three resident electors of the district. The members shall receive no compensation for their services, but shall receive necessary expenses in attending meetings of the board or when otherwise engaged on district business: *Provided*, That in any district which has a fire department employing personnel on a full time, fully paid basis, fire commissioners, in addition to expenses as aforesaid, may each receive not to exceed ten dollars per day or thirty dollars per month for attendance at board meetings and for performance of other services in behalf of the district to be fixed by resolution and entered in the minutes of the proceedings of the board.

Number—
Qualifications
—Compensation—
Terms of
commissioners
—Duties.

The board shall fix the compensation to be paid the secretary and all other agents and employees of the district. The first commissioners shall serve until after the next general election for the selection of commissioners and until their successors have been elected or appointed and have qualified.

SEC. 5. Section 2, chapter 111, Laws of 1955 and RCW 52.22.020 are each amended to read as follows:

RCW 52.22.020 amended.

The incorporation of any previously unincorporated land lying within a fire protection district shall operate to automatically withdraw such lands from the fire protection district.

Withdrawal
by incorporation.

New section.

SEC. 6. There is added to chapter 111, Laws of 1955 and to chapter 52.22 RCW a new section to read as follows:

Cities and towns withdrawn from districts.

Effective January 1, 1960, every city or town, or portion thereof, which is situated within the boundaries of a fire protection district shall become automatically removed from such fire protection district, and no fire protection district shall thereafter include any city or town, or portion thereof, within its boundaries.

New section.

SEC. 7. There is added to chapter 111, Laws of 1955 and chapter 52.22 RCW a new section to read as follows:

RCW 57.28.110 applies.

The provisions of RCW 57.28.110 shall apply to territory withdrawn from a fire protection district under the provision of chapter 52.22 RCW.

New section.

SEC. 8. There is added to chapter 111, Laws of 1955 and chapter 52.22 RCW a new section to read as follows:

City or town's fire protection.

A city or town encompassing territory withdrawn under the provisions of chapter 52.22 RCW shall determine the most effective and feasible fire protection for the withdrawn territory, or any part thereof, and the legislative authority of the city or town and the commissioners of the fire protection district may, without limitation on any other powers provided by law:

(1) Enter into contracts to the same extent as fire protection districts and cities and towns may enter into contracts under authority of RCW 52.08-.030(3), and

(2) Sell, purchase, rent, lease, or exchange property of every nature.

New section.

SEC. 9. There is added to chapter 111, Laws of 1955 and chapter 52.22 RCW a new section to read as follows:

Fire protection district commissioners residing in

territory withdrawn from a fire protection district shall be replaced in the manner provided for the filling of vacancies in RCW 52.12.050.

RCW 52.12.050
controls
filling
vacancies.

Passed the Senate February 26, 1959.

Passed the House March 10, 1959.

Approved by the Governor March 23, 1959.

CHAPTER 238.

[S. B. 55.]

PRINTING AND DUPLICATING BY STATE AGENCIES.

AN ACT relating to the acquisition of printing and duplicating equipment by state officials or agencies; and creating a state printing and duplicating committee.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

SECTION 1. The state printer, the director of budget, and the director of general administration shall constitute the state printing and duplicating committee.

Committee
authorized—
Members.

SEC. 2. The state printing and duplicating committee shall hereafter approve or take such other action as it deems necessary regarding the purchase or acquisition of any printing or duplicating equipment, other than typewriters, direct copy or mimeograph machines, by any official or agency of the state.

Committee
duties.

SEC. 3. Hereafter no state official or agency of the state shall acquire by purchase or otherwise any printing or duplicating equipment, other than typewriters, direct copy or mimeograph machines, unless authorized by the state printing and duplicating committee to so acquire.

Committee
authorization
required.

SEC. 4. The state printing and duplicating committee shall meet within one month after the ef-

Committee
meetings.