

A RESOLUTION URGING RETURN OF STATE RESPONSIBILITY AREA FIRE PREVENTION BENEFIT FEE FUNDS TO PLUMAS COUNTY

WHEREAS, the Legislature has imposed a fire prevention benefit fee, codified in Section 4212 of the Public Resources Code, on owners of real properties in Plumas County located in a State Responsibility Area that contain a structure; and

WHEREAS, monies so collected are deposited into the State Responsibility Area Fire Prevention Fund which must be used for fire prevention activities that benefit the owners of structures who are required to pay the fee; and

WHEREAS, funds totaling approximately \$1,200,000 dollars were collected from Plumas County property owners in Fiscal Year 2011-12, and future annual billing of a similar amount is anticipated; and

WHEREAS, the majority of State Responsibility Area (SRA) lands within Plumas County have been transferred to the US Forest Service per the California Master Cooperative Wildland Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement thereby relieving CalFire of fire prevention responsibilities on such lands; and

WHEREAS, the most logical entities to receive funding to support fire prevention activities are those entities currently involved in fire prevention, which have the infrastructure and experience necessary to maximize the impact of that funding; and

WHEREAS, primary fire prevention activities in Plumas County continue to be completed by local fire districts, local firesafe councils, and local fire wise communities; and

WHEREAS, these local fire prevention entities currently operate without benefit of the State Responsibility Area Fire Prevention Fund monies and with only minimal CalFIRE participation, and their efforts would be greatly enhanced by such funding; and,

WHEREAS, Section 4214(e) of the Public Resources Code requires the establishment of a local assistance grant program for fire prevention activities that benefit structures within the state responsibility areas,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Plumas County Board of Supervisors respectfully requests that the California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection and or the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection return those FY 2011-12 State Responsibility Fire Prevention Fee monies collected from Plumas County but not spent to benefit local property owners, in the form of a local assistance grant pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 4214(e).

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the most effective grant program for local use and distribution in Plumas County is through a block grant program administered by the County.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that any future Fire Prevention Benefit Fees collected in excess of expenditures should also be returned through block grants administered by Plumas County for effective use and distribution in accordance with the legislative intent contained in Public Resources Code Section 4214.

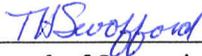
The foregoing resolution was duly passed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Plumas, State of California at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors on April 9, 2013 by the following vote:

Ayes: SUPERVISORS THRALL, GOSS, SIMPSON, KENNEDY, SWOFFORD

Noes: NONE

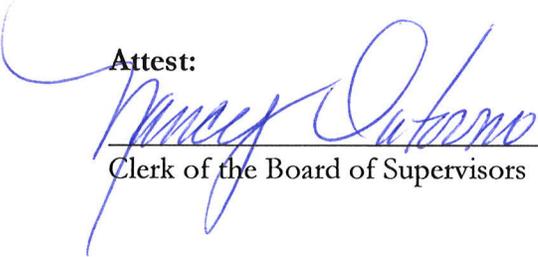
Absent: NONE

Abstain: NONE



Chair,
Board of Supervisors

Attest:



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors