

*Be it remembered that at the Regular Meeting of the Luna County Board of County Commissioners in Deming New Mexico, on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2020, the following proceedings were had and entered of record.*

**RESOLUTION 20-17**

**CONSOLIDATION OF LUNA COUNTY FIRE DISTRICTS**

**WHEREAS**, the New Mexico Fire Protection Fund Law, Section 59A-53-5, NMSA 1978, authorizes County Commissions to establish one or more county fire districts;

**WHEREAS**, by Resolution 15-57, the Board of County Commissioners of Luna County established two main districts or departments, namely Sunshine Fire Department and including a Florida Mountain Substation, and Cooke's Peak Fire Department;

**WHEREAS**, the Board of County Commissioners desires to increase the safety of the citizens by increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of the Luna County Volunteer Fire services by consolidating all existing departments and districts into a single Luna County Volunteer Fire District;

**WHEREAS**, Luna County employs a Fire Chief whose duties include designation and maintenance of fire stations and substations and the deployment of necessary assets to each;

**WHEREAS**, Luna County, at the recommendation of the State Fire Marshal, currently maintains two main fire departments, No. 1, Cooke's Peak Fire Station, and No. 2, at the Sunshine Fire Station, with a substation at Florida Mountain;

**WHEREAS**, the Columbus Volunteer Fire Department is a separate entity operating in the Village of Columbus, and by virtue of a Joint Powers Agreement wherein the Columbus VFD provides volunteer fire protection and emergency medical services for southern Luna County in exchange for funding from the Board of County Commissioners of Luna County and is not the subject of this Resolution;

**WHEREAS**, it is in the best interests of the County and its citizens to consolidate and operate all Luna County Volunteer Fire services under a unified fire district, excluding the Columbus VFD; and

**WHEREAS**, all funds from the Fire Protection Fund of New Mexico shall be expended as required by and specified pursuant to the Fire Protection Fund Law.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of County Commissioners of Luna County consolidate the Sunshine and Cooke's Peak Fire Districts/Departments into the Luna County Volunteer Fire District with fire stations and

substations to be designated by the Fire Chief, pursuant to recommendations of the State Fire Marshall.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Luna County Volunteer Fire District shall provide mutual assistance, pursuant to Section 59A-53-17, NMSA 1978, with other fire districts and shall enter into mutual assistance agreements with such districts, including but not limited to the Columbus VFD, Grant, Hidalgo, Sierra and Dona Ana Counties, the Bureau of Land Management, and such other entities as the Luna County Fire Chief or State Fire Marshall deems necessary and appropriate.


**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Luna County Volunteer Fire District shall, if eligible, participate as a member jurisdiction in the Intrastate Mutual Aid System, created pursuant to the Intrastate Mutual Aid Act, Sections 12-10B-1 to 10, NMSA 1978.


**Done at Deming, New Mexico this 13<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2020**


**Luna County Board of County Commissioners**

**ATTEST:**

  
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**John S. Sweetser, Chairperson  
Commissioner, District 3**

  
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**Andrea Rodriguez, County Clerk**

  
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**Linda M. Smrkovsky,  
Commissioner, District 2**

  
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**Barbara L. Reedy,  
Commissioner, District 1**

