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JEFFERSON COUNTY  
FIRE DIST. #3

JEFFERSON COUNTY  
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 3

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF MARCH 29, 1994

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Parker at 7:00 P.M., March 29, 1994 at Station 31, 7650 Oak Bay Road, Port Ludlow, WA 98365. Chairman John Parker, Commissioner Roy Raudebaugh, Commissioner Harry Morrison and Commissioner Dean Crawford were present. Commissioner Herb Stowe was absent because of illness. The meeting was also attended by Secretary Bourtai Hargrove and Fire Chief Kent DeWitt.

At 7:05 P.M. Chairman Parker opened a public hearing pursuant to RCW 52.04.041 to consider the petition of Pope Resources for the annexation of the land described in Exhibit "A" (attached to these minutes and incorporated by reference) to Jefferson County Fire Protection District No. 3.

A map of the area proposed for annexation was displayed and explained by Chief DeWitt. He also reviewed the negotiations between the Fire District and Pope Resources which led up to the petition for annexation.

Jefferson County Assessor, Jack Westerman, discussed the financial impact of the proposed annexation on the District. That portion of the land classified as timberland (most of the land, at present) will pay no fire district levy, but will pay a minimal EMS levy. Land with improvements (structures) will pay the regular fire district levy.

Wendi Wrinkle, Secretary of the Shine Community Action Council, asked what effect the annexation would have on the Jefferson County Growth Management Act process, and suggested that the community might gain political leverage by postponing the annexation until the GMA process is complete.

Rae Belkin identified herself and expressed concern that the annexation of a large area of land might necessitate the building of a new fire station in the near future, raising tax rates for homeowners now in the District. She was answered by Chief DeWitt, who said that the area to be annexed could be served by the existing fire stations, but if the pace of development accelerated, negotiations would be reopened with Pope Resources. The State Environmental Policy Act contains public safety requirements, and mitigation measures could be requested for new development.

Commissioner Crawford asked if insurance rates will be higher for homeowners not within five miles of the District if the proposed annexation does not take place. Chairman Parker and

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David Cunningham of Pope Resources answered by stating that homeowners have a difficult time getting insurance if they live outside the five mile limit.


Speaking for the Petitioner, David Cunningham said that Pope Resources has two purposes which will be served by the annexation: fire protection for the timberland, and activities conducted within it, such as forest practices research and an existing quarry; and the provision of additional revenues for the Fire District. Pope Resources owns approximately 83% of the land to be annexed. He explained that the assessed valuation of the land will increase with development, producing more revenue for the District. There is also the question of basic fairness - at the present time the District provides EMS coverage for the area when called, and the present residents of the District subsidize the coverage for non-residents. When the timber is harvested, Pope Resources will also pay 5% per cent or more as harvest tax, a portion of which will go to the District.

Jack Westerman confirmed that the Fire District will receive part of the excise tax which is paid when the timber is harvested. 80% of the tax goes to local government.

At the conclusion of the public hearing, Commissioner Raudebaugh moved to annex the land described in the petition submitted by Pope Resources; and to instruct the Secretary to prepare a resolution to that effect for adoption at the next regular meeting of the Board. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Morrison, and passed 4-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 P.M.

Dated this 30th day of March 1994.

  
Bourtai Hargrove  
District Secretary

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