RESOLUTION #_____

RESOLUTION CONSOLIDATING THE TWENTY (20) FIRE PROTECTION, & AMBULANCE AND RESCUE SERVICE DISTRICTS INTO ONE FIRE PROTECTION, & AMBULANCE AND RESCUE DISTRICT

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 153A-301, the board of county commissioners may create county service districts to finance fire protection services within a service district's boundaries; and

WHEREAS, on October 20, 2015, the County created the Asheville Special, Asheville Suburban, Barnardsville, Broad River, East Buncombe, Enka-Candler, Fairview, French Broad, Garren Creek, Jupiter, Leicester, North Buncombe, Reems Creek, Reynolds, Riceville, Skyland, Swannanoa, Upper Hominy, West Buncombe, and Woodfin Fire Protection, Ambulance and Rescue Service Districts (herein "Old Districts"); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 153A-304, the Board may consolidate two or more service districts upon finding that the districts are contiguous or in a continuous boundary, the services provided in each district are substantially the same, that the services provided is lower for one of the district and there is a need to increase those services for that district to a level enjoyed by the other districts; and

WHEREAS, the County has complied with the hearing and notice requirements as set forth in N.C. Gen. Stat. § 153A-304(c); and

WHEREAS, this Board is of the opinion that, given these findings that the proposed consolidation meet the standards set forth in N.C. Gen. Stat. § 153A-304(a) and the Old Districts should be consolidated into one (1) fire service protection district as depicted in the attached GIS Map titled "Fire Protection, Ambulance and Rescue Service District Consolidation effective July 1, 2026" attached as Exhibit A attached hereto (herein "New District").

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners for the County of Buncombe as follows:

1. That the Report attached hereto is hereby approved.

2. That pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 153A-304, the Old Districts are consolidated into one (1) fire protection service district as depicted in GIS Map titled Fire Protection, Ambulance and Rescue Service District Consolidation effective July 1,

2026" attached as Exhibit A attached hereto.

3. That the County Manager or her designee is hereby instructed to take all actions necessary and appropriate to affect this Resolution, including but not limited to entering into Fire Protection Contracts with existing fire departments to provide fire protection services based on the insurance district boundaries within the New District beginning July 1, 2026.

4. That all Unified Fire Protection, Ambulance and Rescue Service District funds collected shall not be used to supplement the existing Buncombe County Emergency Medical Services Department services provided countywide.

5. That all acts and doings of officers, employees and agents of the County, whether taken prior to, on, or after the date of this Resolution, that are in conformity with and in the furtherance of these purposes and intents of this Resolution as described above shall be, and the same hereby are, in all respects, ratified, approved and confirmed.

4. That this resolution shall be effective on July 1, 2026.

This the 21st day of April 2026.

ATTEST

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR THE COUNTY OF BUNCOMBE

_____

Sarah Gross, Clerk to the Board

By: _____

Amanda Edwards, Chair

APPROVED AS TO FORM

_____

County Attorney