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**POLICY NO.7.08**

**SEPTEMBER 8, 2015**

**TITLE: FIRE PROTECTION SERVICE CHARGES**

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**POLICY STATEMENT:**

Westlock County wishes to establish a policy to charge fees for responses to fire and emergencies.

This policy replaces Schedule “A” of Bylaw 24-2013.

**PURPOSE:**

- To enable Fire Protection Services to recover a portion of the expenses incurred when responding to fire and emergencies.
- To allow Council to update Fire Protection Service fees as required without the need of making a new bylaw.

**DEFINITIONS:**

**County** means Westlock County.

**Fire Hazard**, as defined in 2.1.16 of bylaw 05-2015, means combustible material that, in the opinion of a Member, due to its nature, location, condition or arrangement, or any combination of these factors, may be ignited and could endanger human life or damage property.

**Fire protection property**, as defined in 2.1.22 of bylaw 05-2015, means all property owned or controlled by the County and designated for use by the Fire Protection Department in relation to the provision of Fire Protection including, but not limited to, equipment, materials, supplies, Fire Protection Units and fire stations.

**Incident**, as defined in 2.1.27 of bylaw 05-2015, means a Fire or a situation where a Fire or explosion is imminent or any other situation where there is a danger or possible danger to life or property.

**Mutual Fire Aid Agreement**, as defined in 2.1.30 of bylaw 05-2015, means an agreement entered into by the County with another municipality or entity, with a view to ensuring the prevention and control of fires, with respect to land within the County boundaries or under the County's control and/or another municipality's boundaries or control.

## **1. INCIDENT RESPONSES AND CONTROL OF FIRE HAZARDS:**

**1.1.** Where the County has taken any action whatsoever responding to an incident or control of fire hazard, the fire protection charge shall be:

- a. \$400.00 the first hour or portion thereof for a fire protection response plus;
- b. \$200.00 for every hour thereafter or portion thereof for fire protection property dispatched to the incident after the first hour (1) or hours (if applicable); plus
- c. Any other costs incurred by the County as a result of the incident which do not form part of the standard costs and expenses of providing fire protection, including but not limited to contracted services, mutual aid, et cetera.

## **2. INCIDENTS INVOLVING MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS:**

**2.1.** Where the County has taken any action responding to an incident resulting from a motor vehicle accident or motor vehicle fire, and the incident occurs on municipal roadways, the fire protection charge shall be:

- a. \$400.00 the first hour or portion thereof for a fire protection response plus;
- b. \$200.00 for every hour thereafter or portion thereof for fire protection property dispatched to the incident after the first hour (1) or hours (if applicable) plus;
- c. Any other costs incurred by the County as a result of the incident which do not form part of the standard costs and expenses of providing fire protection, including but not limited to contracted services, mutual aid, et cetera.

**2.2.** Where the County has taken any action responding to an incident resulting from a motor vehicle accident or motor vehicle fire, and the incident occurs on provincial highways, the fire protection charge shall be:

- a. In accordance with Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation Policy TCE-DC-501, as amended or repealed and replaced from time to time.

**2.3.** Where the County has taken any action responding to an incident resulting from a mutual aid request, the fire protection fee shall be as outlined and established in the mutual aid agreement, or, in the circumstance whereby the charge is of value to be less than \$3000.00 the charge may be waived.

MOTION: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

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Peter Kelly  
Chief Administrative Officer