VALLEY REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY KING AND PIERCE COUNTIES, WASHINGTON

RESOLUTION 199

A RESOLUTION of the of the Board of Governance of the Valley Regional Fire Authority, King and Pierce Counties, Washington, relating to contracting indebtedness; providing for the issuance, sale and delivery of not to exceed \$96,500,000 aggregate principal amount of unlimited tax general obligation bonds in one or more series, to provide funds (i) to pay or reimburse all or a portion of the costs of the Project (as defined in this resolution), including, without limitation, the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, renovation, equipping, and furnishing of two new fire stations, one existing station (including a new head office), and a logistics and maintenance facility and training grounds; and (ii) to pay the costs of issuance and sale of the bonds; fixing or setting parameters with respect to certain terms and covenants of the bonds; appointing the Authority's designated representative to approve the Bond Sale Terms of the sale of the bonds; and providing for other related matters.

Adopted October 8, 2024

This document prepared by

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^{*}The cover page, table of contents and section headings of this resolution are for convenience of reference only and shall not be used to resolve any question of interpretation of this resolution.

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THE BOARD OF GOVERNANCE OF VALLEY REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY, HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

- <u>Section 1</u>. <u>Definitions</u>. As used in this resolution, the following capitalized terms shall have the following meanings:
- (a) "Authority" means Valley Regional Fire Authority, King and Pierce Counties, Washington.
- (b) "Authorized Denomination" means \$5,000 or any integral multiple thereof within a maturity of a Series, or such other minimum authorized denominations as may be specified by the Designated Representative in a Bond Purchase Agreement for a Series.
- (c) "Beneficial Owner" means, with respect to a Bond, the owner of any beneficial interest in that Bond.
 - (d) "Board" means the Board of Governance of the Authority.
- (e) "Bond" means each bond issued pursuant to and for the purposes provided in this resolution.
- (f) "Bond Counsel" means the firm of Stradling Yocca Carlson & Rauth LLP, its successor, or any other attorney or firm of attorneys selected by the Authority with a nationally recognized standing as bond counsel in the field of municipal finance.

- (g) "Bond Purchase Agreement" means a written offer to purchase a Series of the Bonds pursuant to certain Bond Sale Terms, which offer has been accepted by the Designated Representative on behalf of the Authority, in accordance with this resolution.
- (h) "Bond Register" means the books or records maintained by the Bond Registrar for the purpose of identifying ownership of each Bond.
- (i) "Bond Registrar" means the Fiscal Agent, or any successor bond registrar selected by the Finance Officer.
- (j) "Bond Sale Terms" means, for any Series of the Bonds, the terms and conditions for the sale of that Series including, but not limited to the amount, date or dates, denominations, interest rate or rates (or mechanism for determining interest rate or rates), payment dates, final maturity, redemption rights, price, and other terms or covenants, including minimum savings for refunding bonds. The parameters for certain Bond Sale Terms are set forth in Exhibit A.
- (k) "Book-Entry Form" means a fully registered form in which physical bond certificates are registered only in the name of the Securities Depository (or its nominee), as Registered Owner, with the physical bond certificates held by and immobilized in the custody of the Securities Depository (or its designee), where the system for recording and identifying the transfer of the ownership interests of the Beneficial Owners in those Bonds is neither maintained by nor the responsibility of the Authority or the Bond Registrar.
- (l) "Code" means the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and applicable rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.
- (m) "Continuing Disclosure Certificate" means the certificate setting forth a written undertaking to provide continuing disclosure executed pursuant to Section 15 of this resolution, in substantially the form set forth in Exhibit B.
 - (n) "DTC" means The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York, or its nominee.
- (o) "Debt Service Fund" means the Debt Service Fund of the Authority created for the payment of the principal of and interest on the Bonds.
- (p) "Designated Representative" means the officer of the Authority appointed in Section 4 of this resolution to serve as the Authority's designated representative in accordance with RCW 39.46.040(2).
- (q) "Finance Officer" means the Chief Financial Officer of the Authority, or any successor officer who may hereafter be designated by the Board to serve as treasurer for the Authority in accordance with RCW 52.26.090 and other applicable law.
- (r) "Fiscal Agent" means the fiscal agent of the State, as the same may be designated by the State from time to time.
- (s) "Government Obligations" means, unless otherwise limited in the Bond Purchase Agreement for a particular Series of the Bonds, any government obligation as that term is defined in RCW 39.53.010, as now in effect or as may hereafter be amended.

- (t) "Issue Date" means, with respect to a Bond, the date of initial issuance and delivery of that Bond to the Purchaser in exchange for the purchase price of that Bond.
- (u) "Letter of Representations" means the Blanket Issuer Letter of Representations dated July 10, 2008, between the Authority and DTC, as it may be amended from time to time, and any successor or substitute letter relating to the operational procedures of the Securities Depository.
 - (v) "MSRB" means the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board.
- (w) "Official Statement" means an offering document, disclosure document, private placement memorandum or substantially similar disclosure document provided to purchasers and potential purchasers in connection with the initial offering of a Series of the Bonds in conformance with Rule 15c2-12 or other applicable regulations of the SEC.
 - (x) "Owner" means, without distinction, the Registered Owner and the Beneficial Owner.
- (y) "Project" means the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, renovation, equipping, and furnishing of two new fire stations, one existing station (including a new head office), and a logistics and maintenance facility and training grounds. The cost of all necessary architectural, engineering, legal and other consulting services; site acquisition or improvement (e.g., clearing and demolition); on and off-site utilities and related improvements; payments for fiscal and legal expenses; printing, advertising, establishing and funding accounts; necessary and related planning, consulting, inspection and testing costs; administrative expenses; and other similar activities or purposes incurred in connection with the Project shall be deemed a part of the costs of such capital improvements, as deemed necessary and advisable by the Authority. Incidental costs incurred in connection with undertaking the Project, consistent with RCW 39.46.070, may be included as costs of the Project.
- (z) "Project Fund" means the Capital Project Fund of the Authority, or such other fund or account as may be designated or created by the Finance Officer for the purpose of paying the costs of the Project.
- (aa) "Purchaser" means D.A. Davidson & Co., or such corporation, firm, association, partnership, trust, bank, financial institution or other legal entity or group of entities selected by the Designated Representative to serve as purchaser in a private placement, underwriter or placement agent in a negotiated sale, of any Series of the Bonds.
- (bb) "Rating Agency" means any nationally recognized rating agency then maintaining a rating on the Bonds at the request of the Authority.
- (cc) "Record Date" means the Bond Registrar's close of business on the 15th day of the month preceding an interest payment date. With respect to redemption of a Bond prior to its maturity, the Record Date shall mean the Bond Registrar's close of business on the date on which the Bond Registrar sends the notice of redemption in accordance with Section 9.
- (dd) "Registered Owner" means, with respect to a Bond, the person in whose name that Bond is registered on the Bond Register. For so long as the Bonds are held in Book-Entry Form, Registered Owner shall mean the Securities Depository.
- (ee) "Rule 15c2-12" means Rule 15c2-12 promulgated by the SEC under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

- (ff) "SEC" means the United States Securities and Exchange Commission.
- (gg) "Securities Depository" means DTC, any successor thereto, any substitute securities depository selected by the Authority, or the nominee of any of the foregoing. Any successor or substitute Securities Depository must be qualified under applicable laws and regulations to provide the services proposed to be provided by it.
- (hh) "Series of the Bonds" or "Series" means a series of the Bonds issued pursuant to this resolution.
 - (ii) "State" means the State of Washington.
- (jj) "System of Registration" means the system of registration for the Authority's bonds and other obligations set forth in Resolution No. 39 of the Authority.
- (kk) "Tax-Exempt Bond" means any Bond, the interest on which is intended on the Issue Date to be excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes.
- (II) "Taxable Bond" means any Bond, the interest on which is not intended on the Issue Date to be excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes.
- (mm) "Term Bond" means each Bond designated as a Term Bond and subject to mandatory redemption in the years and amounts set forth in the Bond Purchase Agreement.
- <u>Section 2</u>. <u>Findings and Determinations</u>. The Authority takes note of the following facts and makes the following findings and determinations:
- (a) *Voter Authorization*. At the election held on November 7, 2023, pursuant to Resolution No. 187, the requisite proportion of the Authority's qualified voters passed Proposition 1 and approved the issuance of not to exceed \$96,500,000 principal amount of bonds for the purpose of providing funds necessary to pay or reimburse all or a portion of the costs of the Project, and the collection of excess property taxes in amounts sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on those bonds.
- (b) Debt Capacity. The maximum amount of indebtedness authorized by this resolution is \$96,500,000. Based on the following facts, this amount is to be issued within the amount permitted to be issued by the Authority with voter approval for general governmental purposes:
 - (i) The assessed valuation of the taxable property for excess levies within the Authority as ascertained by the last preceding assessment for collection in the calendar year 2024 is \$20,064,317,732.
 - (ii) As of August 1, 2024, the Authority has limited tax general obligation indebtedness, consisting of bonds, notes, and leases outstanding in the principal amount of \$0, which is incurred within the limit of up to 3/4% of the value of the taxable property within the Authority permitted for general Authority purposes without a vote.
 - (iii) As of August 1, 2024, the Authority has \$5,620,000 unlimited tax general obligation indebtedness outstanding. Such indebtedness is permitted to be incurred for capital purposes only, with the approval of the requisite proportion of the Authority's qualified voters at an election meeting the minimum turnout requirements, within the limit of up to 1½% of the

value of the taxable property within the Authority for general Authority purposes when combined with the outstanding nonvoted limited tax general obligation indebtedness.

- (c) Plan of Financing. Pursuant to applicable law, including without limitation chapters 52.26, 39.36, 39.40, 39.44, and 39.46 RCW, the Authority is authorized to issue general obligation bonds for the purpose of financing the Project, which is a capital purpose only and does not include the replacement of equipment. The total cost of the Project is expected to be greater than \$96,500,000, which is expected to be paid from proceeds of the Bonds and other available money of the Authority.
- (d) Issuance of the Bonds. For the purpose of providing the funds necessary (i) to pay or reimburse all or a portion of the costs of the Project; and (ii) to pay the costs of issuance and sale of the Bonds, the Board therefore finds that it is in the best interests of the Authority and its taxpayers to issue and sell the Bonds in one or more Series, pursuant to the terms set forth in one or more Bond Purchase Agreements as approved by the Authority's Designated Representative consistent with the parameters for the Bond Sale Terms set forth in this resolution.
- Section 3. Authorization and Description of Bonds. The Authority is authorized to borrow money on the credit of the Authority and issue negotiable unlimited tax general obligation bonds evidencing indebtedness, in one or more Series, in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$96,500,000, to provide funds necessary (i) to pay or reimburse all or a portion of the costs of the Project, and (ii) to pay the costs of issuance and sale of the Bonds. The Bonds may be issued in one or more Series and may be combined with other general obligation bonds (including refunding bonds) authorized separately. The Bonds shall be designated unlimited tax general obligation bonds, shall be numbered separately, and shall have any name, year and series or other label as deemed necessary or appropriate by the Finance Officer.
- Section 4. Appointment of Designated Representative; Bond Sale Terms. The Chief Financial Officer and the Fire Chief/Administrator are each, acting independently, appointed to act as the Designated Representative of the Authority in connection with the issuance and sale of the Bonds in accordance with RCW 39.46.040 and this resolution. The Designated Representative is authorized to approve, on behalf of the Authority, Bond Sale Terms for the sale of the Bonds (or each Series thereof, if sold in multiple series), and in connection with each such sale, to execute a Bond Purchase Agreement confirming the Bond Sale Terms and such related agreements as may be necessary or desirable, consistent with the parameters set forth in Exhibit A to this resolution, which is attached and incorporated by this reference.

Section 5. Bond Registrar; Registration and Transfer of Bonds.

- (a) Registration of Bonds. Each Bond shall be issued only in registered form as to both principal and interest and the ownership of each Bond shall be recorded on the Bond Register.
- (b) Bond Registrar; Duties. Unless otherwise determined by the Finance Officer, the Fiscal Agent is appointed as initial Bond Registrar. The Bond Registrar shall keep, or cause to be kept, sufficient books for the registration and transfer of the Bonds, which shall be open to inspection by the Authority at all times. The Bond Registrar is authorized, on behalf of the Authority, to authenticate and deliver Bonds transferred or exchanged in accordance with the provisions of the Bonds and this resolution, to serve as the Authority's paying agent for the Bonds and to carry out all of the Bond Registrar's powers and duties under this resolution and the System of Registration. The Bond Registrar shall be responsible for its representations contained in the Bond Registrar's Certificate of

Authentication on each Bond. The Bond Registrar may become an Owner with the same rights it would have if it were not the Bond Registrar and, to the extent permitted by law, may act as depository for and permit any of its officers or directors to act as members of, or in any other capacity with respect to, any committee formed to protect the rights of Owners.

- (c) Bond Register; Transfer and Exchange. The Bond Register shall contain the name and mailing address of each Registered Owner and the principal amount and number of each Bond held by each Registered Owner. A Bond surrendered to the Bond Registrar may be exchanged for a Bond or Bonds in any Authorized Denomination of an equal aggregate principal amount and of the same Series, interest rate and maturity. A Bond may be transferred only if endorsed in the manner provided thereon and surrendered to the Bond Registrar. Any exchange or transfer shall be without cost to the Owner or transferee. The Bond Registrar shall not be obligated to exchange any Bond or transfer registered ownership during the period between the applicable Record Date and the next upcoming interest payment or redemption date.
- (d) Securities Depository; Book-Entry Only Form. Unless otherwise determined by the Finance Officer, the Bonds initially shall be issued and held fully immobilized in Book-Entry Form by the Securities Depository in accordance with the provisions of the Letter of Representations. Neither the Authority nor the Bond Registrar shall have any responsibility or obligation to participants of the Securities Depository or the persons for whom they act as nominees with respect to the Bonds regarding the accuracy of any records maintained by the Securities Depository or its participants of any amount in respect of principal of or interest on the Bonds, or any notice which is permitted or required to be given to Registered Owners hereunder (except such notice as is required to be given by the Bond Registrar to the Securities Depository). Registered ownership of a Bond initially held in Book-Entry Form, or any portion thereof, may not be transferred except: (i) to any successor Securities Depository; (ii) to any substitute Securities Depository's successor; or (iii) to any person if the Bond is no longer held in Book-Entry Form.

If the Securities Depository resigns from its functions as depository, or upon a determination by the Finance Officer to discontinue utilizing the then-current Securities Depository, the Finance Officer may appoint a substitute Securities Depository. If the Securities Depository resigns from its functions as depository and no substitute Securities Depository can be obtained, or if the Finance Officer determines not to utilize a Securities Depository, then the Bonds shall no longer be held in Book-Entry Form and ownership may be transferred only as provided herein.

Nothing in this resolution shall prevent the Bond Sale Terms from providing that a Series of the Bonds shall be issued in certificated form without utilizing a Securities Depository, and that the Bonds of such Series shall be registered as of their Issue Date in the names of the Owners thereof, in which case ownership may be transferred only as provided in subsection (c), above.

(e) Lost or Stolen Bonds. In case any Bond shall be lost, stolen or destroyed, the Bond Registrar may authenticate and deliver a new bond or bonds of like amount, date, tenor, and effect to the Registered Owner(s) thereof upon the Registered Owner(s)' paying the expenses and charges of the Authority in connection therewith and upon filing with the Bond Registrar evidence satisfactory to the Bond Registrar that such bond or bonds were actually lost, stolen or destroyed and of Registered Ownership thereof, and upon furnishing the Authority with indemnity satisfactory to both.

Section 6. Pledge of Taxes. The Bonds constitute a general indebtedness of the Authority and are payable from tax revenues of the Authority and such other money as is lawfully available and pledged by the Authority for the payment of principal of and interest on the Bonds. For as long as any of the Bonds are outstanding, the Authority irrevocably pledges that it shall, in the manner provided by law without limitation as to rate or amount, include in its annual property tax levy amounts sufficient, together with other money that is lawfully available, to pay principal of and interest on the Bonds as the same become due. The full faith, credit and resources of the Authority are pledged irrevocably for the prompt payment of the principal of and interest on the Bonds and such pledge shall be enforceable in mandamus against the Authority.

Section 7. Form and Execution of Bonds.

- (a) Form of Bonds; Signatures and Seal. Each Bond shall be prepared in a form consistent with the provisions of this resolution and State law. Each Bond shall be signed in the corporate name of the Authority by the Administrator and the Chair of the Board of Governance, either or both of whose signatures may be manual or in facsimile. If any officer whose manual or facsimile signature appears on a Bond ceases to be an officer of the Authority authorized to sign bonds before the Bond bearing his or her manual or facsimile signature is authenticated by the Bond Registrar, or issued or delivered by the Authority, that Bond nevertheless may be authenticated, issued and delivered and, when authenticated, issued and delivered, shall be as binding on the Authority as though that person had continued to be an officer of the Authority authorized to sign bonds. Any Bond also may be signed on behalf of the Authority by any person who, on the actual date of signing of the Bond, is an officer of the Authority authorized to sign bonds, although he or she did not hold the required office on its Issue Date.
- (b) Authentication Required. Only a Bond bearing a Certificate of Authentication in substantially the following form, manually signed by the Bond Registrar, shall be valid or obligatory for any purpose or entitled to the benefits of this resolution: "Certificate of Authentication. This Bond is one of the fully registered Valley Regional Fire Authority, King and Pierce Counties, Washington, Unlimited Tax General Obligation Bonds, 2024 [Series], described in the Bond Resolution." The authorized signing of a Certificate of Authentication shall be conclusive evidence that the Bond so authenticated has been duly executed, authenticated and delivered and is entitled to the benefits of this resolution.

Section 8. Debt Service Fund; Manner of Payment; Failure to Pay.

- (a) Debt Service Fund. The Debt Service Fund has been previously created as a special fund of the Authority for the sole purpose of paying principal of and interest on the Bonds and other unlimited tax general obligation bonds of the Authority. The principal of and interest on the Bonds shall be paid out of the Debt Service Fund. All amounts allocated to the payment of the principal of and interest on the Bonds shall be deposited in the Debt Service Fund as necessary for the timely payment of amounts due with respect to the Bonds. Bond proceeds (if any) in excess of the amounts needed to pay the costs of the Project and to pay the costs of issuance shall be deposited into the Debt Service Fund. Until needed to pay principal of and interest on the Bonds, the Authority may invest money in the Debt Service Fund temporarily in any legal investment, and the investment earnings shall be retained in the Debt Service Fund and used for the purposes of that Fund.
- (b) Manner of Payment. Principal of and interest on each Bond shall be payable in lawful money of the United States of America on the dates and in the amounts as provided in the Bond

Purchase Agreement applicable to that Series. No Bonds of any Series shall be subject to acceleration under any circumstances.

- (1) Bonds Held In Book-Entry Form. Principal of and interest on each Bond held in Book-Entry Form shall be payable in the manner set forth in the Letter of Representations.
- (2) Bonds Not Held In Book-Entry Form. Interest on each Bond not held in Book-Entry Form shall be payable by electronic transfer on the interest payment date, or by check or draft of the Bond Registrar mailed on the interest payment date to the Registered Owner at the address appearing on the Bond Register on the Record Date. The Authority, however, is not required to make electronic transfers except pursuant to a request by a Registered Owner in writing received at least ten days prior to the Record Date and at the sole expense of the Registered Owner. Principal of each Bond not held in Book-Entry Form shall be payable upon presentation and surrender of the Bond by the Registered Owner to the Bond Registrar.
- (c) Failure To Pay Bonds. If the principal of any Bond is not paid when the Bond is properly presented at its maturity or date fixed for redemption, the Authority shall be obligated to pay interest on that Bond at the same rate provided in the Bond from and after its maturity or date fixed for redemption until that Bond, both principal and interest, is paid in full or until sufficient money for its payment in full is on deposit in the Bond Fund, or in a trust account established to refund or defease the Bond, and the Bond has been called for payment by giving notice of that call to the Registered Owner.

<u>Section 9.</u> <u>Redemption Provisions and Purchase of Bonds.</u>

- (a) Optional Redemption. All or some of the Bonds of any Series may be issued subject to redemption prior to their stated maturity dates at the option of the Authority at the times and on the terms set forth in the Bond Purchase Agreement, consistent with the parameters set forth in Exhibit A.
- Term Bonds, subject to mandatory redemption in principal installment payments, as set forth in the applicable Bond Purchase Agreement. If not redeemed or purchased at the Authority's option prior to maturity, Term Bonds (if any) must be redeemed, at a price equal to one hundred percent of the principal amount to be redeemed plus accrued interest, on the dates and in the years and principal amounts as set forth in the applicable Bond Purchase Agreement. If the Authority optionally redeems or purchases a Term Bond prior to maturity, the principal amount of that Term Bond so redeemed or purchased (irrespective of its redemption or purchase price) shall be credited against the remaining mandatory redemption installment payments in the manner as directed by the Finance Officer. In the absence of direction by the Finance Officer, credit shall be allocated to each mandatory redemption installment payment for that Bond on a *pro rata* basis.
- (c) Extraordinary Redemption Provisions. All or some of the Bonds of any Series may be issued subject to extraordinary optional or extraordinary mandatory redemption prior to maturity, upon the occurrence of an extraordinary event, at the prices, in the principal amounts, and on the dates set forth in the applicable Bond Purchase Agreement.
- (d) Partial Redemption; Selection of Bonds for Redemption. If fewer than all of the outstanding Bonds are to be redeemed at the option of the Authority, the Finance Officer shall select the Series and maturities to be redeemed. If less than all of the principal amount of a maturity of the

selected Series is to be redeemed, if such Series is held in Book-Entry Form, the portion of such maturity to be redeemed shall be selected for redemption by the Securities Depository in accordance with the Letter of Representations, and if the Series is not then held in Book-Entry Form, the portion of such maturity to be redeemed shall be selected by the Bond Registrar randomly in such manner as the Bond Registrar shall determine. All or a portion of the principal amount of any Bond that is to be redeemed may be redeemed in any Authorized Denomination. If less than all of the outstanding principal amount of any Bond is redeemed, upon surrender of that Bond to the Bond Registrar, there shall be issued to the Registered Owner, without charge, a new Bond (or Bonds, at the option of the Registered Owner) of the same Series, maturity and interest rate in any Authorized Denomination in the aggregate principal amount to remain outstanding.

- (e) Notice of Redemption. Notice of an intended redemption of any Bond then in Book-Entry Form shall be given in accordance with the Letter of Representations. Unless otherwise set forth in the applicable Bond Purchase Agreement, the Authority must cause notice of any intended redemption of a Bond not in Book-Entry Form to be given not less than 20 nor more than 60 days prior to the date fixed for redemption by first-class mail, postage prepaid, to the Registered Owner of each Bond to be redeemed at the address appearing on the Bond Register on the Record Date. The requirements of the preceding sentence shall be deemed to have been fulfilled when notice has been mailed as so provided, whether or not it is actually received by the Owner of any Bond, and may be waived by the Registered Owner of the Bond to be redeemed. In addition, the redemption notice shall be mailed or sent electronically within the same period to the MSRB (if required under the Continuing Disclosure Certificate), to each Rating Agency, and to such other persons and with such additional information as the Finance Officer shall determine, but these additional mailings shall not be a condition precedent to the redemption of any Bond.
- (f) Rescission of Optional Redemption Notice. In the case of an optional redemption, the notice of redemption may state that the Authority retains the right to rescind the redemption notice and the redemption by giving a notice of rescission to the affected Registered Owners at any time prior to the scheduled optional redemption date. Any notice of optional redemption that is so rescinded shall be of no effect, and each Bond for which a notice of optional redemption has been rescinded shall remain outstanding.
- (g) Effect of Redemption. Interest on each Bond called for redemption shall cease to accrue on the date fixed for redemption, unless either the notice of optional redemption is rescinded as set forth in Section 9(f), or money sufficient to effect such redemption is not on deposit in the Bond Fund or in a trust account established to refund or defease the Bond.
- (h) Purchase of Bonds. The Authority reserves the right to purchase any or all of the Bonds offered to the Authority at any time at any price acceptable to the Authority plus accrued interest to the date of purchase.
- Section 10. Refunding or Defeasance of the Bonds. The Authority may issue refunding bonds pursuant to State law or use money available from any other lawful source to carry out a refunding or defeasance plan, which may include (a) paying when due the principal of and interest on any or all of the Bonds (the "defeased Bonds"); (b) redeeming the defeased Bonds prior to their maturity; and (c) paying the costs of the refunding or defeasance. If the Authority sets aside in a special trust fund or escrow account irrevocably pledged to that redemption or defeasance (the "trust account"), money and/or Government Obligations maturing at a time or times and bearing interest in amounts sufficient to redeem, refund or defease the defeased Bonds in accordance with their terms, then all right

and interest of the Owners of the defeased Bonds in the covenants of this resolution and in the funds and accounts obligated to the payment of the defeased Bonds shall cease and become void. Thereafter, the Owners of defeased Bonds shall have the right to receive payment of the principal of and interest on the defeased Bonds solely from the trust account and the defeased Bonds shall be deemed no longer outstanding. In that event, the Authority may apply money remaining in any fund or account (other than the trust account) established for the payment or redemption of the defeased Bonds to any lawful purpose. Unless otherwise specified by the Authority in a refunding or defeasance plan, notice of refunding or defeasance shall be given, and selection of Bonds for any partial refunding or defeasance shall be conducted, in the manner prescribed in this resolution for the redemption of Bonds.

Section 11. Deposit and Use of Proceeds.

- (a) Project Fund; Deposit of Proceeds. The Project Fund has previously been created for the purpose of paying the costs of the Project and other capital improvements. On the Issue Date, proceeds received from the sale and delivery of the Bonds allocated to the Project shall be deposited into the Project Fund and shall be used to pay or reimburse the Authority for costs of the Project. Until needed to pay such costs, the Authority may invest those proceeds temporarily in any legal investment, and the investment earnings shall be retained in the Project Fund and used for the purposes of that fund, except that earnings subject to a federal tax or rebate requirement (if applicable) may be withdrawn from the Project Fund and used for those tax or rebate purposes.
- (b) Costs of Issuance. Bond proceeds may be deposited in the Project Fund pending their application to pay costs of issuance by the Authority.
- <u>Section 12</u>. <u>Tax Covenants.</u> The Finance Officer is authorized to designate each Series of the Bonds as Tax-Exempt Bonds (or other Tax-Advantaged Bonds) or Taxable Bonds.
- (a) Preservation of Tax Exemption for Interest on Tax-Exempt Bonds. For each Series of the Bonds issued as Tax-Exempt Bonds, the Authority covenants that it will take all actions necessary to prevent interest on the Tax-Exempt Bonds from being included in gross income for federal income tax purposes, and it will neither take any action nor make or permit any use of proceeds of the Tax-Exempt Bonds or other funds of the Authority treated as proceeds of the Tax-Exempt Bonds that will cause interest on the Tax-Exempt Bonds to be included in gross income for federal income tax purposes. The Authority also covenants that, to the extent the arbitrage rebate requirements of Section 148 of the Code are applicable to the Tax-Exempt Bonds, it will take all actions necessary to comply (or to be treated as having complied) with those requirements in connection with the Tax-Exempt Bonds.
- (b) Post-Issuance Compliance. The Finance Officer is authorized and directed to adopt and implement written procedures to facilitate compliance by the Authority with the covenants in this resolution and the applicable requirements of the Code that must be satisfied after the Issue Date to prevent interest on the Tax-Exempt Bonds from being included in gross income for federal tax purposes.
- (c) Authorization to Designate a Series of Tax-Exempt Bonds as "Qualified Tax-Exempt Obligations" if Conditions are Met. Any Series of the Bonds may be designated as "qualified tax-exempt obligations" for the purposes of Section 265(b)(3) of the Code, if the conditions of Section 265(b)(3) of the Code, as then in effect, are met, including the following, as they may be amended by federal law or regulation: (1) the Series does not constitute "private activity bonds" within the meaning

of Section 141 of the Code; (2) the reasonably anticipated amount of tax-exempt obligations (other than private activity bonds and other obligations not required to be included in such calculation) that the Authority and any entity subordinate to the Authority (including any entity that the Authority controls, that derives its authority to issue tax-exempt obligations from the Authority, or that issues tax-exempt obligations on behalf of the Authority) will issue during the calendar year in which the Series is issued will not exceed the limit set forth in the Code (currently \$10,000,000); and (3) the amount of tax-exempt obligations, including the Series, designated by the Authority as "qualified tax-exempt obligations" for the purposes of Section 265(b)(3) of the Code during the calendar year in which the Series is issued does not exceed the limit set forth in the Code (currently \$10,000,000).

Section 13. Manner of Sale; Delivery of the Bonds.

- (a) Manner of Sale of Bonds; Delivery of Bonds. The Designated Representative is authorized to approve the sale of the Bonds (or a Series of the Bonds) by competitive sale, negotiated sale or private placement, based on such officer's the assessment of market conditions, in consultation with appropriate Authority officials and staff, Bond Counsel, and other advisors. In determining the method of sale and accepting the Bond Sale Terms, the Designated Representative shall take into account those factors that, in the judgment of the Designated Representative, may be expected to result in the lowest true interest cost to the Authority.
- (b) Procedure for Negotiated Sale or Private Placement. If the Designated Representative determines that a Series of the Bonds is to be sold by negotiated sale or private placement, the Designated Representative shall select one or more Purchasers with which to negotiate such sale. The Bond Purchase Agreement for each Series of the Bonds shall set forth the Bond Sale Terms. The Designated Representative is authorized to execute the Bond Purchase Agreement on behalf of the Authority, so long as the terms provided therein are consistent with the terms of this resolution and the parameters set forth in Exhibit A.
- Procedure for Competitive Sale. If the Designated Representative determines that a Series of the Bonds is to be sold by competitive sale, the Designated Representative shall cause the preparation of an official notice of bond sale setting forth parameters for the Bond Sale Terms and any other bid parameters that the Designated Representative deems appropriate consistent with this resolution. Bids for the purchase of each Series of the Bonds shall be received at such time or place and by such means as the Designated Representative directs. On the date and time established for the receipt of bids, the Designated Representative (or the designee of the Designated Representative) shall open bids and shall cause the bids to be mathematically verified. The Designated Representative is authorized to award, on behalf of the Authority, the winning bid and accept the winning bidder's offer to purchase that Series of the Bonds, with such adjustments to the aggregate principal amount and principal amount per maturity as the Designated Representative deems appropriate, consistent with the terms of this resolution, and such award shall constitute the Bond Purchase Agreement. The Designated Representative may reject any or all bids submitted and may waive any formality or irregularity in any bid or in the bidding process if the Designated Representative deems it to be in the Authority's best interest to do so. If all bids are rejected, that Series of the Bonds may be sold pursuant to negotiated sale or in any manner provided by law as the Designated Representative determines is in the best interest of the Authority, within the parameters set forth in this resolution.
- (d) Preparation, Execution, and Delivery of the Bonds. The Bonds will be prepared at Authority expense and will be delivered to the Purchaser in accordance with the Bond Purchase Agreement, together with the approving legal opinion of Bond Counsel regarding the Bonds.

Section 14. Official Statement; Continuing Disclosure.

- (a) Preliminary Official Statement. For the sole purpose of the Purchaser's compliance with paragraph (b)(1) of Rule 15c2-12, if applicable, the Designated Representative is authorized to cause a preliminary Official Statement to be prepared in connection with each sale of a Series of the Bonds to the public, and to review and deem such Preliminary Official Statement final as of its date, except for the omission of information permitted to be omitted by Rule 15c2-12. The Authority approves the distribution to potential purchasers of the Bonds of a preliminary Official Statement that has been approved by the Designated Representative and been deemed final, if applicable, in accordance with this subsection.
- (b) Approval of Final Official Statement. The Authority approves the preparation of a final Official Statement for each Series of the Bonds to be sold to the public in the form of the preliminary Official Statement that has been approved and deemed final in accordance with subsection (a), with such modifications and amendments as the Designated Representative deems necessary or desirable, and further authorizes the Designated Representative to execute and deliver such final Official Statement to the Purchaser if required under Rule 15c2-12. The Authority authorizes and approves the distribution by the Purchaser of the final Official Statement so executed and delivered to purchasers and potential purchasers of a Series of the Bonds.
- (c) Undertaking to Provide Continuing Disclosure. If necessary to meet the requirements of paragraph (b)(5) of Rule 15c2-12, as applicable to the Purchaser acting as a participating underwriter for a Series of the Bonds, the Designated Representative is authorized to execute a Continuing Disclosure Certificate setting forth the Authority's written undertaking to provide continuing disclosure for the benefit of holders of a Series of the Bonds, in substantially the form attached as Exhibit B.
- Section 15. Supplemental and Amendatory Resolutions. The Authority may supplement or amend this resolution without the consent of any Owners of the Bonds only (a) to add covenants and agreements that do not materially adversely affect the interests of Owners, or to surrender any right or power reserved to or conferred upon the Authority; or (b) to cure any ambiguities, or to cure, correct or supplement any defective provision contained in this resolution in a manner that does not materially adversely affect the interest of the Beneficial Owners of the Bonds.
- Section 16. General Authorization and Ratification. The Designated Representative and other appropriate officers of the Authority are each authorized to take such actions and to execute such documents as in their judgment may be necessary or desirable to carry out the transactions contemplated in connection with this resolution, and to do everything necessary for the prompt delivery of each Series of the Bonds to the Purchaser thereof and for the proper application, use and investment of the proceeds of the Bonds. All actions taken prior to the effective date of this resolution in furtherance of the purposes described in this resolution and not inconsistent with the terms of this resolution are ratified and confirmed in all respects.
- Severability. The provisions of this resolution are declared to be separate and severable. If a court of competent jurisdiction, all appeals having been exhausted or all appeal periods having run, finds any provision of this resolution to be invalid or unenforceable as to any person or circumstance, such offending provision shall, if feasible, be deemed to be modified to be within the limits of enforceability or validity. However, if the offending provision cannot be so modified, it shall be null and void with respect to the particular person or circumstance, and all other provisions of this

resolution in all other respects, and the offending provision with respect to all other persons and all other circumstances, shall remain valid and enforceable.

<u>Section 18</u>. <u>Effective Date of Resolution</u>. This resolution shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

ADOPTED by the Board of Governance of the Valley Regional Fire Authority, King and Pierce Counties, Washington, at a regular open public meeting thereof, this 8th day of October, 2024.

VALLEY REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY

Board of Governance Chair

ATTEST:

Secretary of the Authority

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Bond Counsel

Exhibit A

PARAMETERS FOR BOND SALE TERMS

(a)	Principal Amount.	The Bonds may be issued in one or more Series. The aggregate principal amount of the Bonds shall not exceed \$96,500,000.
(b)	Date or Dates.	Each Bond shall be dated its Issue Date, as determined by the Designated Representative, which date may not be later than December 31, 2027.
(c)	Denominations, Name, etc.	The Bonds shall be issued in Authorized Denominations, shall be numbered separately in the manner and shall bear any name (including any additional series or other designation) as deemed necessary or appropriate by the Designated Representative.
(d)	Interest Rate(s).	Each Bond shall bear interest from its Issue Date or from the most recent date to which interest has been paid or duly provided for, whichever is later, unless otherwise provided in the Bond Purchase Agreement. One or more rates of interest shall be established for each maturity of each Series of the Bonds, which rate or rates may be fixed or variable. No rate of interest for any Bond may exceed 6.0%, and the true interest cost to the Authority for any Series of the Bonds may not exceed 5.75%.
(e)	Payment Dates.	Interest shall be payable on dates acceptable to the Designated Representative, which shall include payment at the maturity of each Bond, on any mandatory redemption date for Term Bonds, and on any other redemption date.
		Principal payments shall commence on a date acceptable to the Designated Representative and shall be payable at maturity and in mandatory redemption installments for Term Bonds on dates acceptable to the Designated Representative.
(f)	Maturities; Final Maturity.	The final maturity of the Bonds shall mature no later than 20 years after the Issue Date.
(g)	Redemption Prior to Maturity.	The Designated Representative may approve in the Bond Purchase Agreement redemption provisions consistent with Section 9 and subject to the following:
		(1) Optional Redemption. Any Bond may be subject to optional redemption prior to its maturity. Any Bond that is subject to optional redemption prior to maturity must be callable on at least one or more date(s) occurring not more than 10½ years after the Issue Date, consistent with Section 9.
		(2) Mandatory Redemption. Any Bond may be designated as a Term Bond, subject to mandatory redemption prior to its maturity in mandatory redemption installment payments of principal, consistent with Section 9.
(h)	Price.	The purchase price for any Series of Bonds may not be less than 98% or more than 140% of the stated principal amount of that Series.

- (i) Other Terms and Conditions.
- (1) <u>Debt Capacity</u>. A Series of the Bonds may not be issued if it would cause the indebtedness of the Authority to exceed the Authority's legal debt capacity on the Issue Date.
- (2) Expected Life of Capital Facilities. As of the Issue Date of each Series, the Designated Representative must find to his or her satisfaction that the average expected life of the capital facilities to be financed with the proceeds (or allocable share of proceeds) of that Series must exceed the weighted average maturity of such Series (or share thereof allocated to financing those capital facilities).
- (3) Additional Credit Enhancement, Terms, Conditions and Agreements. The Designated Representative may determine whether it is in the Authority's best interest to provide for bond insurance or other credit enhancement; and may accept such additional terms, conditions and covenants as he or she may determine are in the best interests of the Authority, consistent with this resolution.

Exhibit B

[Form of] CONTINUING DISCLOSURE CERTIFICATE

Valley Regional Fire Authority
King and Pierce Counties, Washington
Unlimited Tax General Obligation Bonds, 20__

For the sole purpose of assisting the Purchaser in meeting the requirements of paragraph (b)(5) of Rule 15c2-12, as applicable to a participating underwriter for the Bonds, the Valley Regional Fire Authority, King and Pierce Counties, Washington (the "Authority"), makes the following written undertaking (the "Undertaking") for the benefit of the Owners of the Authority's Unlimited Tax General Obligation Bonds, 20__.

Capitalized terms used but not defined below shall have the meanings given in Resolution No. _____ of the Authority (the "Bond Resolution").

- (a) <u>Undertaking to Provide Annual Financial Information and Notice of Listed Events</u>. The Authority undertakes to provide or cause to be provided, either directly or through a designated agent, to the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (the "MSRB"), in an electronic format as prescribed by the MSRB, accompanied by identifying information as prescribed by the MSRB:
 - (i) Annual financial information and operating data of the type included in the final official statement for the Bonds and described in paragraph (b) of this certificate ("annual financial information"). If audited financial statements are unavailable on or before the dates specified in paragraph (b), below, the timely filing of unaudited financial statements shall satisfy the requirements and filing deadlines set forth in paragraph (b), and the Authority agrees to file audited financial statements if and when they are otherwise prepared and available to the Authority.
 - Timely notice (not in excess of 10 business days after the occurrence of the event) (ii) of the occurrence of any of the following events with respect to the Bonds: (1) principal and interest payment delinquencies; (2) non-payment related defaults, if material; (3) unscheduled draws on debt service reserves reflecting financial difficulties; (4) unscheduled draws on credit enhancements reflecting financial difficulties; (5) substitution of credit or liquidity providers, or their failure to perform; (6) adverse tax opinions, the issuance by the Internal Revenue Service of proposed or final determinations of taxability, Notice of Proposed Issue (IRS Form 5701 – TEB) or other material notices or determinations with respect to the tax status of the Bonds, or other material events affecting the tax status of the Bonds; (7) modifications to rights of holders of the Bonds, if material; (8) bond calls (other than scheduled mandatory redemptions of Term Bonds), if material, and tender offers; (9) defeasances; (10) release, substitution, or sale of property securing repayment of the Bonds, if material; (11) rating changes; (12) bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership or similar event of the Authority, as such "Bankruptcy Events" are defined in Rule 15c2-12; (13) the consummation of a merger, consolidation, or acquisition involving the Authority or the sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the Authority other than in the ordinary course of business, the entry into a definitive agreement to undertake such an action or the termination of a definitive agreement relating to any such actions, other than pursuant to its terms, if material; (14) appointment of a successor or additional trustee or the change of name of a trustee, if material; (15) incurrence of a financial obligation of the Authority, if material, or agreement to covenants, events of default, remedies, priority rights, or other similar terms of a financial obligation of the Authority, any of which affect holders of the Bonds, if material; and (16) any default, event of

acceleration, termination event, modification of terms, or other similar event under the terms of a financial obligation of the Authority, any of which reflect financial difficulties.

For purposes of this Undertaking, the term "financial obligation" shall mean a debt obligation; derivative instrument entered into in connection with, or pledged as security or a source of payment for, an existing or planned debt obligation; or a guarantee of either a debt obligation or a derivative instrument entered into in connection with, or pledged as security or a source of payment for, an existing or planned debt obligation. The term "financial obligation" does not include municipal securities as to which a final official statement has been provided to the MSRB consistent with the Rule.

- (iii) Timely notice of a failure by the Authority to provide required annual financial information on or before the dates specified in paragraph (b) below.
- (b) <u>Type of Annual Financial Information Undertaken to be Provided</u>. The annual financial information that the Authority undertakes to provide in paragraph (a):
 - (i) Shall consist of (1) annual financial statements prepared (except as noted in the financial statements) in accordance with accounting principles set forth in the Budgeting, Accounting and Reporting System (BARS) Manual published by the Washington State Auditor's Office for entities reporting on a Cash Basis (provided that, if the Authority elects in the future to transition to reporting on the basis of generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), it will provide statements prepared in conformance with the BARS Manual for GAAP basis entities) applicable to local governmental units of the State such as the Authority, as such principles may be changed from time to time, which statements may be unaudited, provided, that if and when audited financial statements are prepared and available they will be provided; (2) a statement of the outstanding balance of general obligation bonds issued by the Authority; (3) assessed valuation for that fiscal year; (4) the amount of ad valorem property taxes collected in the fiscal year; and (5) a statement of fire benefit charges, if any, imposed and collected in the fiscal year;
 - (ii) Shall be provided not later than the last day of the ninth month after the end of each fiscal year of the Authority (currently, a fiscal year ending December 31), as such fiscal year may be changed as required or permitted by State law, commencing with the Authority's fiscal year ending December 31, 20 ; and
 - (iii) May be provided in a single or multiple documents and may be incorporated by specific reference to documents available to the public on the Internet website of the MSRB or filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.
- (c) Amendment of Continuing Disclosure Certificate. This Continuing Disclosure Certificate is subject to amendment after the primary offering of the Bonds without the consent of any Owner or holder of any Bond, or of any broker, dealer, municipal securities dealer, participating underwriter, rating agency or the MSRB, under the circumstances and in the manner permitted by Rule 15c2-12, including: (i) the amendment may only be made in connection with a change in circumstances that arises from a change in legal requirements, change in law, or change in the identity, nature, or status of the Authority, or type of business conducted; (ii) the undertaking, as amended, would have complied with the requirements of the rule at the time of the primary offering, after taking into account any amendments or interpretations of the rule, as well as any change in circumstances; and (iii) the amendment does not materially impair the interests of holders, as determined either by parties unaffiliated with the Authority (e.g., bond counsel or other counsel familiar with federal securities laws), or by approving vote of bondholders pursuant to the terms of the Bond Resolution at the time of the amendment. The Authority will give notice to the MSRB

of the substance (or provide a copy) of any amendment to this Continuing Disclosure Certificate and a brief statement of the reasons for the amendment. If the amendment changes the type of annual financial information to be provided, the annual financial information containing the amended financial information will include a narrative explanation of the effect of that change on the type of information to be provided.

- (d) <u>Beneficiaries</u>. This Continuing Disclosure Certificate shall inure to the benefit of the Authority and the Beneficial Owner of each Bond and shall not inure to the benefit of or create any rights in any other person.
- (e) <u>Termination of Continuing Disclosure Certificate</u>. The Authority's obligations under this Continuing Disclosure Certificate shall terminate upon the legal defeasance of all of the Bonds. In addition, the Authority's obligations under this Continuing Disclosure Certificate shall terminate if the provisions of Rule 15c2-12 that require the Authority to comply with this Continuing Disclosure Certificate become legally inapplicable in respect of the Bonds for any reason, as confirmed by an opinion of nationally recognized Bond Counsel familiar with federal securities laws delivered to the Authority, and the Authority provides timely notice of such termination to the MSRB.
- (f) Remedy for Failure to Comply with Continuing Disclosure Certificate. As soon as practicable after the Authority learns of any material failure to comply with this Continuing Disclosure Certificate, the Authority will proceed with due diligence to cause such noncompliance to be corrected. No failure by the Authority or other obligated person to comply with this Continuing Disclosure Certificate shall constitute a default in respect of the Bonds. The sole remedy of any Owner of a Bond shall be to take such actions as that Owner deems necessary, including seeking an order of specific performance from an appropriate court, to compel the Authority or other obligated person to comply with this Continuing Disclosure Certificate.
- Gesignation of Official Responsible to Administer Continuing Disclosure Certificate. The Finance Officer or his or her designee is the person designated, in accordance with the Bond Resolution, to execute the Continuing Disclosure Certificate of the Authority in respect of the Bonds set forth in this section and in accordance with Rule 15c2-12, including, without limitation, the following actions: (i) preparing and filing the annual financial information undertaken to be provided; (ii) determining whether any event specified in paragraph (a) has occurred, assessing its materiality, where necessary, with respect to the Bonds, and preparing and disseminating any required notice of its occurrence; (iii) determining whether any person other than the Authority is an "obligated person" within the meaning of Rule 15c2-12 with respect to the Bonds, and obtaining from such person a Continuing Disclosure Certificate to provide any annual financial information and notice of listed events for that person required under Rule 15c2-12; (iv) selecting, engaging and compensating designated agents and consultants, including financial advisors and legal counsel, to assist and advise the Authority in carrying out the undertaking of the Authority pursuant to this Continuing Disclosure Certificate; and (v) effecting any necessary amendment of this Continuing Disclosure Certificate.

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, Secretary of Valley Regional Fire Authority, King and Pierce Counties, Washington (the "Authority"), hereby certify as follows:

- 1. The attached copy of Resolution No. 199 (the "Resolution") is a full, true and correct copy of an resolution duly adopted at a regular meeting of the Board of Governance of the Authority held at the regular meeting place thereof on October 8, 2024, as that resolution appears on the minute book of the Authority and that Resolution is now in full force and effect.
- 2. A quorum of the members of the Board of Governance was present throughout the meeting and a majority of the members voted in the proper manner for the passage of the Resolution.

Dated: October 8, 2024.

VALLEY REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY, KING AND PIERCE COUNTIES, WASHINGTON

Secretary of the Authority