

STATE OF COLORADO )  
 ) ss.  
COUNTY OF ROUTT )

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-054**

**A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN ELECTION BY THE VOTERS TO AUTHORIZE THE EXTENSION OF A COUNTYWIDE PROPERTY TAX OF 1.5 MILLS (.0015) TO CONTINUE THE FUNDING OF THE ROUTT COUNTY PURCHASE OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS FUND; CALLING AN ELECTION ON NOVEMBER 8, 2022 FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF SUCH PROPOSAL; SETTING THE BALLOT TITLE AND BALLOT QUESTION FOR THE ELECTION; AND AUTHORITY TO SPEND ALL OF THE PROCEEDS OF THE TAX**

**WHEREAS**, Section 20, Article X of the Colorado Constitution and Sections 29-1-302(3), 30-11-107 (d) and 39-1-111, Colorado Revised Statutes (“C.R.S.”), authorize counties to levy a property tax upon the approval of a majority of the registered electors of the county voting on such proposal; and

**WHEREAS**, the Routt County Purchase of Development Rights Fund (the “Fund”) was established in accordance with Routt County Resolution Number 96-059, as corrected by Routt County Resolution Number 96-063 and pursuant to an affirmative vote of the electors of Routt County on November 5, 1996, which vote also approved the levy of a 1 mill tax to expire at the end of tax year 2006; and

**WHEREAS**, the Fund was continued and amended by Routt County Resolution Number 2005-072 and pursuant to an affirmative vote of the electors of Routt County on November 1, 2005, which vote also approved an increase of the levy to 1.5 mill tax to expire at the end of tax year 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, since the establishment of the Fund and the Purchase of Development Rights program (the “Program”) in 1996, the Program has enabled the purchase development rights to conserve over 57,000 acres of land in Routt County having significant agricultural, ranching, riparian, open space and wildlife habitat values; and

**WHEREAS**, there continues to be a critical need to conserve and protect ranch and agricultural lands and natural areas to ensure the quality of life of the citizens of Routt County; and

**WHEREAS**, agriculture and ranching are important local industries that directly and indirectly provide jobs and revenue, and it is in the best interests of the present and future citizens of Routt County to encourage landowners to make a long-term commitment to agriculture and ranching by offering financial incentives and security of land use; and

**WHEREAS**, the continued purchase of development rights from willing landowners will help to manage growth and ensure that the ranches, rural heritage, wildlife, riparian and open spaces of Routt County are preserved for future generations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of County Commissioners of Routt County has determined that it is appropriate and in the best interests of the citizens of Routt County that the question of the renewal of the mill rate of a mill levy for the funding of the Program be submitted to the electors of Routt County.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** as follows:

**Section 1. Ballot Issue**

Pursuant to Section 20, Article X of the Colorado Constitution, the following issue (the “Ballot Issue”) shall be submitted to the registered electors of Routt County at the election to be held on Tuesday, November 8, 2022:

WITHOUT INCREASING TAXES, SHALL ROUTT COUNTY BE AUTHORIZED TO EXTEND THE EXISTING MILL LEVY OF ONE AND A HALF MILLS COMMENCING WITH THE TAX YEAR 2025 AND THROUGH TAX YEAR 2035, WITH THE PROCEEDS TO CONTINUE TO BE USED SOLELY FOR THE PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION OF NATURAL LANDS, INCLUDING LANDS THAT PRESERVE WATER QUALITY, WILDLIFE HABITAT, WORKING RANCHES, AND SCENIC LANDSCAPES AND VISTAS; WITH ALL EXPENDITURES BASED ON RECOMMENDATIONS OF AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND SUBJECT TO INDEPENDENT AUDIT; AND TO BE ADMINISTERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROGRAM COMMENCED IN 1996 BY ROUTT COUNTY RESOLUTIONS 96-059 AND 96-063; AND, CONTINUING THESE FUNDS INCLUDING EARNINGS THEREFROM AS A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE WITHOUT REGARD TO ANY SPENDING, REVENUE, OR OTHER LIMITATION CONTAINED WITHIN ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION OR ANY OTHER LAW?

**Section 2: Deposit and Expenditure of Proceeds of Mill Levy, If Approved**

If the ballot question set forth in Section 1 hereof is approved, then the proceeds of the approved mill levy shall be distributed to and held in the previously established Program Fund and shall be held and used in accordance with the provisions of Routt County Resolution Number 96-059 as amended by Routt County Resolution Number 2005-072.

**Section 3. Effective Date-Expiration Date**

The property tax provided for in the PDR Ballot Issue shall expire at midnight on December 31, 2034 with the last tax year for which the mill levy to be collected being 2035. Notwithstanding said expiration, all moneys remaining in the Fund shall be retained in the Fund and shall continue to be expended only pursuant to and for the purposes set forth in this Resolution until completely exhausted.

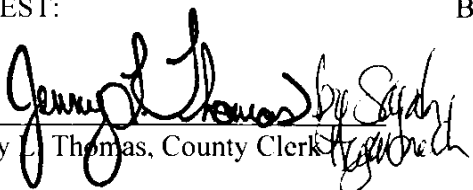
**Section 4. Miscellaneous**


- 4.1. If the Ballot Issue is approved at the election to be held on November 8, 2022, its provisions shall not be repealed or amended except by a majority vote of the registered electors of the County.
- 4.2. The officers and employees of the County are hereby authorized and directed to take all action necessary or appropriate to effectuate the provisions of this Resolution.
- 4.3. This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its adoption.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** at a regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Routt, Colorado, this 30<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2022.

ATTEST:

BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Jenny L. Thomas, County Clerk

  
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 M. Elizabeth Melton, Chair

RESOLUTION VOTE:

M. Elizabeth Melton:	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Abstain	<input type="radio"/> Absent
Tim Redmond:	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Abstain	<input type="radio"/> Absent
Timothy V. Corrigan:	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Abstain	<input type="radio"/> Absent

