

54-1. OPERATIONAL FUNDING GENERALLY; BOARD OF FIRE AND RESCUE COMMISSIONERS.

A. FIRE AND RESCUE TAX AUTHORIZED; RATE. THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY ARE HEREBY AUTHORIZED AND DIRECTED TO LEVY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 1984, AND ANNUALLY THEREAFTER, A FIRE AND RESCUE TAX AT THE RATE OF FIFTEEN CENTS (\$.15) PER ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.) OF ASSESSED VALUE. SUCH TAX SHALL BE LEVIED ON THE ASSESSED VALUE OF ALL TAXABLE REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY IN CHARLES COUNTY.

B. LEVY AND COLLECTION. SAID FIRE AND RESCUE TAX SHALL BE LEVIED AND COLLECTED IN THE SAME MANNER AS OTHER STATE AND COUNTY TAXES ARE NOW LEVIED AND COLLECTED.

C. DISPOSITION OF FUNDS; BOARD OF FIRE AND RESCUE COMMISSIONERS.

(1) THE PROCEEDS COLLECTED FROM THE COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE TAX SHALL THEREAFTER BE PAID BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ON SEPTEMBER 30 AND JUNE 30 OF EACH YEAR TO ALL THE FIRE DEPARTMENTS AND RESCUE SQUADS, INCLUDING MOBILE INTENSIVE CARE UNITS, IN CHARLES COUNTY. THE PROCEEDS SHALL BE DISTRIBUTED AS DIRECTED BY THE BOARD OF FIRE AND RESCUE COMMISSIONERS.

(2) THE BOARD OF FIRE AND RESCUE COMMISSIONERS SHALL BE COMPOSED OF SEVEN (7) MEMBERS, ONE (1) OF WHOM SHALL BE A COUNTY COMMISSIONER OF CHARLES COUNTY, TWO (2) OF WHOM SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, ONE (1) OF WHOM SHALL BE ELECTED BY THE CHARLES COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION, ONE (1) OF WHOM SHALL BE ELECTED BY THE CHARLES COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, AND TWO (2) OF WHOM SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR. EACH MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF FIRE AND RESCUE COMMISSIONERS SHALL SERVE WITHOUT COMPENSATION FOR TERMS OF FOUR (4) YEARS. VACANCIES ARE TO BE FILLED IN THE SAME MANNER AS THE ORIGINAL MEMBERSHIP WAS FILLED. THE TWO (2) GUBERNATORIAL MEMBERS SHALL BE COMPRISED OF ONE (1) PERSON NOT AFFILIATED WITH THE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION OR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES OF CHARLES COUNTY, AND ONE (1) PERSON WHO IS KNOWLEDGEABLE OF THE OPERATIONAL FUNCTIONS OF THE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES OF CHARLES COUNTY.

(3) THE TERMS OF OFFICE FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF FIRE AND RESCUE COMMISSIONERS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

(A) FOR THE TWO (2) MEMBERS WHO ARE APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR - A FOUR-YEAR (4-YEAR) TERM BEGINNING JULY 1,