

(3) (i) Except as provided in subsections (c) and (d) of this section, an electric lighting district may be created by the county commissioners only upon receipt of a petition signed by 60 percent of the property owners within the proposed district.

(ii) The petition shall describe the boundaries of the area proposed to be created as the district.

(iii) Upon receipt of the petition, the county commissioners shall hold a public hearing at which time the residents and taxpayers within the proposed electric lighting district shall be given an opportunity to be heard. This hearing shall be held not less than 14 days nor more than 60 days following receipt of the petition and notice of this hearing shall be published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in the area where the proposed electric lighting district is to be located.

(iv) Following this hearing the county commissioners may establish the electric lighting district and levy on all property which is subject to ordinary county taxes and is located within the district ad valorem taxes at a rate sufficient to pay the cost thereof. All such taxes shall be levied in the same manner, upon the same assessments, for the same period or periods, and as of the same date or dates of finality as are now or may hereafter be prescribed.

~~(E) (1) IN WASHINGTON COUNTY, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MAY IMPOSE IN ANY ELECTRIC LIGHTING DISTRICT A FIXED FEE PER TAX ACCOUNT TO COVER THE COSTS OF ELECTRIC LIGHTING PROVIDED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION. THE FEE SHALL BE UNIFORM WITHIN ANY DISTRICT.~~

(E) (1) IN WASHINGTON COUNTY, TO COVER THE COSTS OF ELECTRIC LIGHTING, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MAY EITHER IMPOSE:

(I) A FEE FOR ELECTRIC LIGHTING AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (A)(2) OF THIS SECTION; OR

(II) A FIXED FEE PER TAX ACCOUNT THAT SHALL BE UNIFORM WITHIN ANY ELECTRIC LIGHTING DISTRICT.

(2) LATE PAYMENTS OF ~~THE~~ A FIXED FEE ARE SUBJECT TO INTEREST FROM THE DATE DUE AT THE SAME RATE, AND SUBJECT TO THE SAME COLLECTION PROCEDURES, AS OVERDUE COUNTY PROPERTY TAXES.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 1992.

Approved May 5, 1992.

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