

NEED TO AMEND ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION FOR THE FRIENDS OF THE SALINE AREA FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC., which references the Saline Area Fire Department.

Also need to amend Bylaws for the Friends of the Saline Area Fire Department

This proposed revision keeps the effective date the approval of all parties to the Articles, but adds a new transfer date for personnel, all real and personal property, all assets, and all liabilities. Doing so not only complies with MCL 124.610(4) for personnel and equipment, but manages to create the new Authority now, but to allow the Saline Area Fire Department to keep operating while all the Ts are being crossed, etc. The 180 days for the transfer will give time to prepare deeds, bills of sale, consider employment agreements, make provisions for any cooperating agreements, etc., including also the arranging for the transfer of the bank accounts and liability and property insurance, etc.

**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION  
OF  
SALINE AREA FIRE AUTHORITY  
Adopted ~~enter date~~ **March 16, 2026****

These Articles of Incorporation (“Articles”) are adopted for the purpose of creating the Saline Area Fire Authority (“AUTHORITY”) under the provisions of the Emergency Services to Municipalities Act, 1988 PA 57, as amended.

**ARTICLE 1.  
NAME AND OFFICE**

- 1.1 **Name.** The name of this AUTHORITY is “Saline Area Fire Authority,” referred to as the “AUTHORITY.”
- 1.2 **Principal Office.** The principal office of the AUTHORITY will be located at 205 East Michigan Ave. Saline, MI 48176, or at such other office location as may be designated by the AUTHORITY.

**ARTICLE 2.  
DEFINITIONS**

- 2.1 **Act 57** means the Emergency Services to Municipalities Act, 1988 PA 57, as amended. MCL 124.601 *et seq.*
- 2.2 **AUTHORITY** means the Saline Area Fire Authority incorporated under the provisions of Act 57.

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- 2.3 **Board** means the AUTHORITY's governing board.
- 2.4 **Board Member(s)** means the Representative Board Member(s) (or Alternate Representative Board Member(s) when authorized to vote pursuant to these Articles) and the At-Large Board Member.
- 2.5 **Emergency Services** means fire protection or any other emergency health or safety related services (except police protection services) ~~designated in these articles.~~
- 2.6 **Fire chief** means the chief operations officer of the AUTHORITY.
- 2.7 **Incorporating Municipalities** means a Municipality that is part of this AUTHORITY or joins in a manner provided for in these Articles.
- 2.8 **Municipal Emergency Service** means an emergency service performed by a Municipality rather than by this AUTHORITY.
- 2.9 **Municipality** means a county, city, village or township.
- 2.10 **Non-Incorporating Municipalities** means a municipality that does not become part of this AUTHORITY in the manner provided for in these Articles.

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Other terms shall have such meaning as may be specified in the various provisions of these Articles.

### **ARTICLE 3. INCORPORATING MUNICIPALITIES**

The Incorporating Municipalities creating this AUTHORITY are the City of Saline, the Township of Lodi, the Township of Saline, and the Charter Township of York, each located in the County of Washtenaw, State of Michigan, which are each hereby designated as an Incorporating Municipality. Any municipality that subsequently joins the AUTHORITY pursuant to Act 57 and these Articles shall also be an Incorporating Municipality. If any Incorporating Municipality that is a general law township shall become a charter township, the successor charter township shall also be bound by these Articles.

### **ARTICLE 4. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this AUTHORITY shall be and is to provide Emergency Services in accordance with the authorizations contained in Act 57. The AUTHORITY shall provide such Emergency Services within its jurisdiction described in Article 5 herein. The AUTHORITY may provide such Emergency Services outside of its jurisdiction as may be authorized by these Articles or pursuant to contract with the AUTHORITY by any Incorporating Municipality, Non-Incorporating Municipality, or any other lawful entity in accordance with Act 57.

**ARTICLE 5.  
JURISDICTION**

The Incorporating Municipalities shall determine the territory under the authority’s jurisdiction. This AUTHORITY’s jurisdiction must be comprised of territory within the Incorporating Municipalities. The governing body of this AUTHORITY shall approve any expansion of territory requested by an Incorporating Municipality. An Incorporating Municipality shall advise the AUTHORITY of the redistricting of territory with at least 12 months’ notice. The AUTHORITY has exclusive authority to determine how Emergency Services will be provided within its jurisdiction. The AUTHORITY will create and maintain a current map.

**ARTICLE 6.  
POWERS**

6.1 **Body Corporate.** This AUTHORITY shall be a body corporate, with power to sue or be sued in any court of the State of Michigan.

6.2 **Powers.** The AUTHORITY shall possess all of the powers now or hereafter granted by Act 57, by any other applicable statute of the State of Michigan, by these Articles of Incorporation, and those incident to those purposes, including but not limited to the following:

A. **Bylaws and Rules.** Adopt bylaws and rules of administration to accomplish the purposes of the ~~emergency fire~~ service consistent with these Articles of Incorporation and Act 57.

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~~B. **Adoption of Operational Rules and Procedures.** The Board has the right to adopt rules governing its procedure which are not in conflict with Michigan law, federal law or these Articles. The Board shall also have the right to establish rules and regulations for the use of its property, personal or real, owned, held, or operated by it under the provisions of law, as well as policies, procedures, and guidelines for the operation of the AUTHORITY.~~

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~~B.C. **Ordinances.** Pursuant to the procedures set forth in Act 57, adopt ordinances that allow the AUTHORITY to assess fees on owners or occupants of property who receive Emergency Services to cover the costs of providing Emergency Services under Act 57.~~

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~~C.D. **Grants, Loans or Contributions.** Apply for and accept grants, loans, or contributions from the federal government or any of its agencies, the state, corporations, nonprofit organizations, trusts, private individuals or other public or private agencies to be used for any of the purposes of Act 57 and to do any and all things within its express or implied powers necessary or~~

desirable to secure that financial or other aid or cooperation in the carrying out of any of the purposes of Act 57.

~~D.E.~~ **Contracts.** Enter into any contracts with other entities not prohibited by law.

~~E.F.~~ **Engage Assistance.** Investigate Emergency Services requirements, needs, and programs and engage, by contract, consultants as may be necessary and cooperate with the federal government, state, political subdivisions, and other authorities in those investigations.

~~F.G.~~ **Employees; Consultants.** As stated more fully in Article 17 and subject to the provisions of Act 57, Michigan law and these Articles, hire employees, attorneys, accountants, consultants, and/or services as the AUTHORITY considers necessary to carry out the purposes of the AUTHORITY.

~~G.H.~~ **Additional Powers.** The AUTHORITY shall possess all other powers authorized by law that are necessary to carry out the purposes of its incorporation and those incident to those purposes.

~~H.I.~~ **Property.** The AUTHORITY may acquire private property by purchase, lease, gift, devise or condemnation; either within or without its corporate limits and may hold, manage, control, sell, exchange or lease such. For the purposes of condemnation, the AUTHORITY may proceed under the Acquisition of Property by State Agencies and Public Corporations Act, 1911 PA 149 or the Uniform Condemnation Procedures Act, 1980 PA 87.

6.3 **Limitations.** The enumeration of any powers herein shall not be construed as a limitation upon its general powers unless the context or Michigan law shall clearly indicate otherwise.

6.4 **Corporate Seal.** The AUTHORITY may adopt a corporate seal, and may alter the seal, and may use it by causing it or a facsimile thereof to be affixed, impressed or reproduced in any other manner.

#### **ARTICLE 7. TERM**

This AUTHORITY shall continue in existence perpetually or until dissolved by act of the parties or by law if such dissolution is permitted by law as referenced in Article 20.

#### **ARTICLE 8. FISCAL YEAR**

The fiscal year of the AUTHORITY shall commence on the first day of January in each year and shall end on December 31 of that year.

**ARTICLE 9.  
BOARD OF MEMBERS**

9.1 **Board Members.** The governing body of this AUTHORITY shall be a Board as selected and specified in Section 9.2

9.2 **Appointments.**

A. **Representative Board Members.** The governing body of each Incorporating Municipality shall appoint two (2) Representative Board Members (hereafter referred to as a Representative Member) and one (1) Alternate Representative Board Member (hereafter referred to as an Alternate Member).

B. **At-Large Board Member.** The Board shall also select one (1) At-Large Board Member (hereafter referred to as the At-Large Member) at the annual meeting. The Board shall create a nominating committee for the purpose of assessing candidates for the At-Large Member. By the December Board meeting that precedes any new term, the Board members and/or Fire Chief may recommend candidates for the At-Large Member. The nominating committee will nominate the best candidate to the Board.

9.3 **Qualifications.**

A. Each Representative Member and Alternate Member shall be a qualified elector residing within the territorial boundaries of the Incorporating Municipality who appointed him or her and within the jurisdiction of the AUTHORITY, or an elected official of that Incorporating Municipality. A Member of the Board shall not be an officer, member or employee of any emergency service transferred to, operated by, or contracted with the AUTHORITY, including a person who has contracted with or receives a direct financial benefit or compensation from the AUTHORITY.

B. The At-Large Member must be a resident of one of the Incorporating Municipalities and be approved by a majority of the Board Members appointed and serving.

9.4 **Continuation of Terms.** The Representative Members and Alternate Members serving on the Saline Area Fire Board at the time of the Effective Date of these Articles shall continue to serve for the remainder of their terms in accordance with their original appointments.

9.5 **Terms.** ~~After the initial appointment provided in Section 9.2, [section 9.2 does not set an initial appointment, rather the new appointment procedure starts normally after the continuation of terms set forth in 9.4-- suggested revision for you to consider: above, Except for Representative Members and Alternate Members who have continued to serve per 9.4 above, each Representative Member and Alternate~~

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Member appointed by an Incorporating Municipality shall serve a term designated by the Incorporating Municipality. The At-Large Member shall serve a two-year term.- All terms of office shall begin on January 1. Terms of the Representative Members for each Incorporating Municipality shall coincide with terms of the Alternate Members for that Incorporating Municipality. Because the terms may vary depending on the Incorporating Municipality, the Incorporating Municipalities have the responsibility for recording and monitoring when its Board Member needs to be appointed or re-appointed.

- 9.6 **Voting Rights; Participation.** All Representative Members and the At-Large Member shall have full rights of vote at each meeting. Alternate Members shall only have the right to vote at any particular meeting if the respective Representative Member is not in attendance.
- 9.7 **Timing of Appointment.** No appointment to the Board shall be deemed to be invalid because it was not made within or at the time specified in these Articles.
- 9.8 **Oath.** Each Representative Member, Alternate Member and At-Large Member shall qualify by taking the constitutional oath of office, to be administered by the Secretary of the Board, and filing his or her oath with the AUTHORITY and as otherwise required by law. The Board Chair shall administer the oath of office to an incoming Secretary of the Board.
- 9.9 **Compensation of Board of Members.** No Board Member, whether they be a Representative Member, an Alternate Member, or an At-Large Member, shall be compensated by the AUTHORITY for attending meetings of the AUTHORITY.
- 9.10 **Vacancies.** A vacancy shall be defined as the retirement, removal, resignation, or death of a Board Member. In the event of a vacancy of a Representative Member or Alternate Member on the Board, the governing body of the Incorporating Municipality that selected the Representative Member and/or the Alternate Member whose seat is vacated shall fill the vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term. If the vacancy occurs in the position of a Representative Member, the alternate Representative Member shall serve until the Representative Member's successor is appointed and qualified. In the event of a vacancy of the At-Large Member, such vacancy shall be filled by the Board for the remainder of the unexpired term within ninety (90) days.
- 9.11 **Removal.** Any Representative Board Member or Alternate Member, appointed by an Incorporating Municipality, may be removed at any time with or without cause by action of the governing body of that Incorporating Municipality that appointed the Representative Board Member or Alternate Member. The At-Large Member may be removed at any time with or without cause by the action of the AUTHORITY's Board by a majority of the Board appointed and serving.

**ARTICLE 10.  
MEETINGS**

- 10.1 **Annual Meeting.** The Board shall meet at the Principal Office or other designated location on the first Wednesday of February each year for the annual meeting. The date of the annual meeting in any given year may be changed by the majority vote of the Board Members present if the Board cannot meet on the first Wednesday of February.
- 10.2 **Meetings.** Regular meetings of the Board shall be held at least quarterly at such time and place as shall be determined by motion of the Board at the annual meeting; provided, however, the annual meeting shall constitute one of the quarterly meetings. Special meetings of the Board may be called by the Chairperson or by any two Members. Public notices of all regular, special, or rescheduled regular meetings of the Board shall be given pursuant to the applicable provisions of the Open Meetings Act, 1976 PA 267, as amended from time to time. The Board shall keep minutes of its proceedings as required by law.
- 10.3 **Quorum.** A majority of the Board Members who are appointed and serving shall be required for a quorum.
- 10.4 **Voting.** The Board shall act by motion or resolution, unless a particular format is required by law. Each Board Member shall have one vote. The passage of any resolution providing for the execution of any contract, appointment of the At-Large Board Member, election of officers, adoption of by-laws, termination of employees, there shall be required a majority vote of the Board Members appointed and serving. Except as herein otherwise provided [in these Articles](#), a vote of a majority of the Board Members present at any meeting at which a quorum is present and who are authorized to vote on such matters shall be sufficient for passage. All votes shall be “yeas” or “nays” except that where the vote is unanimous, it shall only be necessary to so state.
- 10.5 **Voting on Tax Levies.** The passage of any resolution providing for the levying of any tax shall require a two-thirds vote of the Board Members appointed and serving, with at least one member of each Incorporating Municipality present at the time of the vote.
- 10.6 **Voting on Fire Stations.** [The passage of any resolution providing for the building or significant renovation of any fire station or ancillary building shall require a two-thirds vote of the Board Members appointed and serving, with at least one member of each Incorporating Municipality present at the time of the vote.](#)

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~~10.6—Adoptions of Rules and Procedures. The Board has the right to adopt rules governing its procedure which are not in conflict with Michigan law, federal law or these Articles. The Board shall also have the right to establish rules and regulations for the use of its property, personal or real, owned, held, or operated by it under the provisions of law.~~

**ARTICLE 11.  
OFFICERS AND OFFICER DUTIES**

- 11.1 **Appointment of Officers.** At each annual meeting, the Board shall select a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, and a Treasurer, each of whom shall be a Representative Member. No Incorporating Municipality shall have more than one (1) Representative Member holding an Officer position. Officers shall serve until the next annual meeting or until their respective successors shall be selected and qualified. No selection of an Officer of the Board shall be deemed to be invalid because it was not made within or at the time specified in these Articles.
- 11.2 **Officers.** The Officers of the Board shall have such other powers and duties as may be conferred upon them by the Board and Act 57, including but not limited to the following responsibilities:
- A. **Chairperson.** The Chairperson of the Board shall be the presiding officer. Except as otherwise provided by these Articles or as authorized by the Board, the Chairperson shall not have any executive or administrative function in the AUTHORITY, other than as a member of said Board.
  - B. **Vice-Chairperson.** In the absence or disability of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson shall perform the duties of the Chairperson.
  - C. **Secretary.** The Secretary shall be the recording officer of the Board and the custodian of the AUTHORITY'S records. The Board may hire employees and/or consultants necessary to assist the Secretary with their duties.
  - D. **Treasurer.** The Treasurer shall be the custodian of the funds of the Board and shall be bonded by the AUTHORITY conditioned upon the faithful performance of the duties of their office. The cost of the said bond shall be paid by the AUTHORITY. The Board may hire employees and/or consultants necessary to assist the Treasurer with their duties.
- 11.3 **Oversight of Fire Chief.** The Officers of the Board shall have responsibility for oversight of the Fire Chief's performance and the administration of the Fire Chief's personnel evaluation, salary, and benefits. This shall include an annual performance evaluation, incorporating input from the Board. The Chairperson shall serve as the main point of contact for these matters. This evaluation and any recommendations

regarding issues of performance, salary and benefits shall be brought before the Board for approval.

- 11.4 **Duties Regarding AUTHORITY Fund.** All money shall be deposited in a financial institution or financial institutions designated by the Board into the AUTHORITY fund. All checks or other forms of withdrawal from the AUTHORITY fund, including paychecks, shall be signed by two authorized persons. Authorized persons include the Officers, and for operational purposes, will normally be the Chairperson and Treasurer, and the ~~Fire Chief Administrative Employee~~ [term is no longer defined, should this be the Fire Chief?] of the AUTHORITY. All authorized signatories shall be bonded by the AUTHORITY conditioned upon the faithful performances of his or her office. The cost of said bond shall be paid by the AUTHORITY.

**ARTICLE 12.  
BUDGET AND AUDIT**

- 12.1 **Budget Process.** The AUTHORITY shall adopt a budget process to facilitate appropriate review and approval each year.
- 12.2 **Annual Budget.** The Budget Committee of the Board shall prepare the annual budget for the AUTHORITY and the Fire Chief and the Chairperson shall present the proposed annual operating and capital budget reflecting the projected revenues and projected expenditures of the AUTHORITY for the next fiscal year beginning January 1 as follows:
- A. **AUTHORITY Authorized Millage Budget.** If the AUTHORITY is authorized by voters to levy an AUTHORITY-wide millage, the budget must be approved by the Authority Board by December 1 prior to the next fiscal year by a majority vote of Board Members appointed and serving. The budget may be adjusted from time to time upon approval by the Board with a majority vote of Board Members appointed and serving at the time of the vote.
- B. **Temporary Use of Fund Balance to Address Millage Revenue Timing Gap:** The temporary use of Reserve and Capital funds cash balances under this Section is permitted solely to address cash-flow shortages arising from the timing difference between the collection of millage revenues and the scheduled disbursement of expenditures authorized under Act 57 and the AUTHORITY'S annual budget.
- C. **Budget if there is No AUTHORITY-Wide Millage approved by the voters.**
- (i) During any year-time when an AUTHORITY-wide tax has not been approved by the voters to be and levied as provided in Subsection A above, each Incorporating Municipality agrees to provide support to the AUTHORITY.

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(ii) The preliminary budget for the next fiscal year shall be prepared for and presented at a budget meeting no later than a September Board meeting prior to the end of the fiscal year. The Board shall approve submittal of the budget for the next fiscal year to the Incorporating Municipalities at least sixty (60) days before the end of the fiscal year.

(ii) [Subsection ii requires submittal of the budget to the Incorporating Municipalities but does not set forth that it needs to be approved by the municipalities nor in what fashion—does it need approval from all 4? Seems there should be some type of approval, if all the voters just voted down a millage without this addition it makes that vote meaningless because what amounts to the same millage could just be imposed in another fashion]

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(iii) The Incorporating Municipalities shall each vote on the budget and it is adopted if seventy-five percent of the Incorporating Municipalities approve it. If the budget fails, the Board will cause to be prepared a new budget that will again be submitted to the Incorporating Municipalities for approval.

(iii)(iv) The percentage of the budget that each Incorporating Municipality must contribute shall be based upon that portion of the Adjusted Taxable Value of the Incorporating Municipality that is served by the AUTHORITY.

(iv)(v) The Incorporating Municipalities agree to pay the annual amounts set forth in the approved budget in quarterly installments commencing on January 1, if and only if, an AUTHORITY-wide millage was not levied the previous year.

12.3 **Accounting and Budgeting Procedures.** The accounting and budgeting practices of the AUTHORITY shall conform to standard accounting practices, the Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act, 1968 PA 2, and all other applicable provisions of law. The Board shall cause an annual audit to be made of the books, records, and financial transactions of the AUTHORITY by an independent certified public accountant and shall furnish a copy thereof to each Incorporating Municipality. The books and records of the AUTHORITY shall be open for inspection by any Incorporating Municipality at all reasonable times.

**ARTICLE 13.  
FINANCING THE AUTHORITY**

13.1 **Property Tax Levy by AUTHORITY.** Subject to the terms and conditions provided in Section 12 of Act 57, the AUTHORITY may levy a tax upon all of the taxable property within the jurisdiction of the AUTHORITY for the purposes of Act 57. The tax shall not be levied without the approval of a majority of the registered electors residing within the AUTHORITY's jurisdiction and qualified to vote and voting on the tax. The election

may be called by resolution of the Board of the AUTHORITY pursuant to Michigan law and in compliance with Act 57. Taxes authorized by the AUTHORITY may be levied at a rate not to exceed twenty (20.00) mills and for a period as determined by the Board in the resolution calling the election and included in the ballot proposal. The taxes shall be levied, collected, and paid by each tax assessing and collecting officer and the County Treasurer to the AUTHORITY as provided by Act 57.

13.2 **Financial Contribution from Each Incorporating Municipality.** During any time when an AUTHORITY-wide tax has not been approved and levied as provided in Subsection A above as set forth above in Section 12.2, ~~the AUTHORITY shall determine an appropriate budget and~~ the Incorporating Municipalities agree to pay the annual amounts as determined in Subsection C of Section 12.2 ~~set forth in the budget as provided in these Articles.~~

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13.3 **Property Tax Levy by Municipality.** Any Incorporating Municipality or municipality granted taxing authority under Michigan law may levy a tax on all of the taxable property within the limits of its political subdivision and appropriate, grant, or contribute the proceeds of the tax to the AUTHORITY for the purposes of Act 57 or to provide sufficient money to fulfill its contractual obligation to the AUTHORITY, which tax shall be within the charter, statutory, and constitutional limitations.

13.4 **Other Sources of Revenue.** The sources of revenue for financing the AUTHORITY specified herein are non-exclusive. The AUTHORITY, the Incorporating Municipalities and any Non-Incorporating Municipalities may provide for their respective financial contributions to the AUTHORITY from all other sources of revenue authorized by law.

13.5 **Federal or State Grants in Aid.** The AUTHORITY shall have the power to apply for and accept grants, loans, or contributions from the United States of America or any agency or instrumentality thereof, the State of Michigan or other public or private agencies; and to do any and all things necessary or desirable to secure such financial or other aid or cooperation in carrying out any of the purposes of Act 57.

#### ARTICLE 14.

#### COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS; EMERGENCY SERVICE AGREEMENTS

The AUTHORITY by an affirmative vote consistent with the requirements of Article 10.4, may enter into agreements with any Incorporating Municipality, Non-Incorporating Municipalities, or other entities pursuant to Act 57, the Urban Cooperation Act, 1967 PA 7, 1951 PA 33, or another applicable Michigan law for the purpose of, among other things, providing emergency services to the AUTHORITY, Incorporating Municipalities and Non-Incorporating Municipalities and their residents. Contracts by the AUTHORITY to provide emergency services under Section 8 of the Act (MCL 124.608) shall be executed in the name and on behalf of the AUTHORITY by its Chairperson and Secretary by manual or facsimile signature, and the corporate seal of the AUTHORITY or facsimile thereof, shall be printed on

and affixed to the contract. An Incorporating Municipality may transfer any Municipal Emergency Service to the AUTHORITY by transfer agreement.

**ARTICLE 15.  
ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES**

Unless and until the AUTHORITY adopts such ordinances as provided in MCL 124.609, Incorporating Municipalities, in cooperation with each other, shall promulgate uniform ordinances providing for cost recovery. In addition, the Incorporating Municipalities, in cooperation with each other, may promulgate ordinances regarding other lawful issues related to the provision of emergency service. From the date on which these ordinances shall take effect; the provisions thereof shall be controlling within the limits of the AUTHORITY. At any time, the Board may adopt other ordinances as set forth in Act 57.

**ARTICLE 16.  
IMPROVEMENTS: FINANCING**

16.1 **Property Owned by the AUTHORITY.** The AUTHORITY may acquire public or private property by purchase, gift, lease, devise, borrowing or use pursuant to the requirements of Act 57.

16.2 **Transfer of Assets and Liabilities.** All assets (including real and personal property and the right to receive future contributions from the municipal members) and liabilities of the Saline Area Fire Department shall be ~~are~~ transferred to the AUTHORITY 180 days after the effective date of the Articles of Incorporation.

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16.3 **Transfer of Operating and Capital Accounts.** Applicability of Withdrawal Provisions: Upon the formation 180 days after the effective date of the Articles of Incorporation of the Authority, all existing Operating and Capital funds maintained by the Saline Area Fire Department shall be transferred to, and thereafter administered by the Authority. On that date, the separate capital contributions accounts of municipal parties to the Saline Area Fire Department shall cease to exist and the municipal parties to the Saline Area Fire Department relinquish all ownership or equitable interest in such accounts and in the real and personal property of the Saline Area Fire Department by their approving these Articles.

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**ARTICLE 17.  
EMPLOYEES**

17.1 **Power to Employ.** Subject to the terms and conditions provided in Section 10 of Act 57, the Board shall have the power to hire all officers and employees as it may be considered desirable to carry out the functions of the AUTHORITY.

17.2 **Fire Chief.** The Board is authorized to hire a Fire Chief. The Fire Chief shall administer the activities conducted and services provided by the AUTHORITY on a daily basis as

may be more fully determined by the Board. Selecting and/or terminating a chief requires a two-thirds vote of the Board Members appointed and serving, with at least one Representative Board Member of each Incorporating Municipality present at the time of the vote.

~~17.3~~ **Transfer of Rank, Position and Seniority.** All Saline Area Fire Department employees will be transferred into the AUTHORITY along with their ranks, positions and seniority into the AUTHORITY at its creation. Per MCL 124.410(4), the actual transfer of the employees shall occur 180 days after the effective date of the Articles of Incorporation.

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#### **ARTICLE 18. INVESTMENT**

The Treasurer of the AUTHORITY and the AUTHORITY's consultant, when authorized by resolution of the Board, may invest general funds of the AUTHORITY. Such investment by the Treasurer or consultants shall be made in compliance with the laws of the State of Michigan.

#### **ARTICLE 19. PUBLICATION OF THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION**

These Articles shall be published once in the newspaper of record for the AUTHORITY, and once on each municipality's website, which newspaper ~~and websites~~ have general circulation within the jurisdiction of the AUTHORITY. One printed copy of the Articles of Incorporation, certified as a true copy, as hereinafter provided, with the dates and places of publication shown by publishers' Affidavit of Publication attached hereto, shall be filed with the Secretary of State. The Secretary of the AUTHORITY is hereby designated as the person to cause these Articles to be published, certified, and filed as aforesaid.

#### **ARTICLE 20. WITHDRAWAL OF INCORPORATING MUNICIPALITY**

20.1 **Procedure for Withdrawal.** An Incorporating Municipality may withdraw from the AUTHORITY by resolution of the Incorporating Municipality's legislative body approving the withdrawal, a certified copy of which resolution shall be provided to the Board at least twelve (12) months prior to the beginning of a new fiscal year for the AUTHORITY. Such new fiscal year shall serve as the effective date for the withdrawal. If there is no AUTHORITY-wide tax levied under Section 12 of Act 57, the Incorporating Municipality that withdraws shall continue to be financially obligated to continue all funding, including operations and capital equipment budgets, as required by these Articles or other contract until the Effective Date of the withdrawal.

20.2 **Tax Liability.** An Incorporating Municipality that withdraws from the AUTHORITY ("Withdrawing Municipality") shall continue to be subject to any tax levied in its

jurisdiction under Section 12 of Act 57 for the duration of the period of that tax as determined pursuant to Section 12(3) of Act 57.

- 20.3 **Debts and Liabilities.** A Withdrawing Municipality shall remain liable for a proportion of the debts and liabilities of the AUTHORITY incurred while the Withdrawing Municipality was a part of the AUTHORITY. The proportion of the AUTHORITY's debts for which a Withdrawing Municipality remains liable as a result of its withdrawal from the AUTHORITY shall be determined by dividing the adjusted state equalized value of the real property in the Withdrawing Municipality by the adjusted state equalized value of all real property in the AUTHORITY on the effective date of the withdrawal.
- 20.4 **Capital Expenditure Limitation.** No capital expenditure made or obligated after the effective notice date shall be assessed to the Withdrawing Municipality.
- 20.5 **AUTHORITY Property.** Any property owned by the AUTHORITY, which is in the possession of the Withdrawing Municipality or in the possession of personnel who will no longer remain with the AUTHORITY as a result of the Withdrawing Municipality's withdrawal from the AUTHORITY, shall be returned to the AUTHORITY before the effective date of the withdrawal. The Withdrawing Municipality shall not be entitled to the return of any credit for any property or money it transferred to or paid to the AUTHORITY prior to the withdrawal.
- 20.6 **Employees.** Employees of the AUTHORITY who perform emergency services in the jurisdiction of the Withdrawing Municipality shall be protected in relation to the Withdrawing Municipality to the same extent as employees of the Incorporating Municipality are protected in relation to the AUTHORITY under Section 10 of Act 57.
- 20.7 **Dissolution.** If all of the Incorporating Municipalities withdraw or if the AUTHORITY is otherwise dissolved as permitted by law, all assets of the AUTHORITY shall be disbursed at the time of dissolution to the Incorporating Municipalities based on the proportionate share of the adjusted taxable value of all taxable property placed on the tax roll in each Incorporating Municipality's jurisdiction, computed the year the dissolution is effective.
- 20.8 **Right to Rescind Withdrawal Notice.** A Withdrawing Municipality that has provided notice of withdrawal may rescind such notice at any time prior to the effective date of withdrawal. Upon delivery of written notice rescinding its withdrawal, the Withdrawing Municipality shall be restored without interruption, and shall retain all rights, privileges, and obligations as if no withdrawal notice had been issued.

**ARTICLE 21.**  
**EFFECTIVE DATE AND TRANSFER DATE**

These Articles of Incorporation shall become effective on the date when the Articles have been approved by all of the governing bodies of the Incorporating Municipalities.

All Personnel, all assets (including real property, equipment and all other personal property, Operating and Capital Accounts, and including the right to receive future contributions from the municipal members of the Saline Area Fire Department), and all liabilities, shall be transferred to the AUTHORITY 180 days after the effective date of the Articles of Incorporation.

**ARTICLE 22.  
AMENDMENTS**

These Articles of Incorporation may be amended at any time so as to permit any county, city, village, township or charter township to become a part of this AUTHORITY if such amendment to the Articles of Incorporation is adopted by the governing body of such county, city, village, township or charter township proposing to become a member, and if such amendment is adopted by the governing body of each Incorporating Municipality of which the AUTHORITY is composed. If there is an AUTHORITY-wide tax, the AUTHORITY shall condition acceptance of any county, city, village or township on the authorization of that AUTHORITY-wide millage by the majority of the electors of the municipality desiring to become part of the AUTHORITY. Other amendments may be made to these Articles of Incorporation at any time if adopted by the governing body of each Incorporating Municipality of which the AUTHORITY is composed. Any such amendment shall be endorsed, published, certified and printed copies thereof filed in the same manner as the original Articles of Incorporation, except that the printed and filed copies shall be certified by the Secretary of this AUTHORITY.

**ARTICLE 23.  
MISCELLANEOUS**

Counterparts. These Articles of Incorporation may be executed in two or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

**ARTICLE 24.  
ENDORSEMENT**

These Articles have been adopted by the City of Saline, the Township of Lodi, the Township of Saline, and the Charter Township of York, as set forth in the following endorsements, and in witness whereof the Supervisor and the Clerk of the Townships of Saline and Lodi and the Charter Township of York; the Mayor and the Clerk of the City of Saline; have endorsed thereon the statement of such adoption.

\*\*\*\*\*

These Articles have been adopted by the several Incorporating Municipalities.

*Signatures on following pages*

**SIGNATURES**

These Articles of Incorporation were adopted by the Township Board of the Township of Saline, County of Washtenaw, State of Michigan, at a meeting duly called on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

TOWNSHIP OF SALINE

\_\_\_\_\_  
Saline Township Supervisor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Saline Township Clerk

These Articles of Incorporation were adopted by the Township Board of the Township of Lodi, County of Washtenaw, State of Michigan, at a meeting duly called on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

TOWNSHIP OF LODI

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lodi Township Supervisor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lodi Township Clerk

These Articles of Incorporation were adopted by the Township Board of the Charter Township of York, County of Washtenaw, State of Michigan, at a meeting duly called on the \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

TOWNSHIP OF YORK

\_\_\_\_\_  
York Charter Township Supervisor

\_\_\_\_\_  
York Charter Township Clerk

These Articles of Incorporation were adopted by the City Council of the City of Saline, County of Washtenaw, State of Michigan, at a meeting duly called on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

CITY OF SALINE

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor of the City of Saline

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of the City of Saline

**CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY SECRETARY**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby certify that I am the Secretary for the Saline Area Fire Authority, State of Michigan; that the above is a true and complete copy of the printed Articles of Incorporation of the Saline Area Fire Authority a public corporation incorporated under the provisions of Act 57 which Articles were published on \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_, and on \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_, as stated in the attached affidavits of publication and are on file in said Secretary's office at \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary, Saline Area Fire Authority

Dated: , 2025

Submitted by:  
Secretary  
Saline Area Fire Authority