

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-02

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE WESTERN COLORADO REGIONAL DISPATCH CENTER RECOGNIZING WESTERN COLORADO REGIONAL DISPATCH CENTER AS AN ORGANIZATION OF EMERGENCY AND FIRST RESPONDERS.

WHEREAS, the Western Colorado Regional Dispatch Center (“WestCO”) is a separate legal entity created pursuant Article XIV, Section 18(2)(a) of the Colorado Constitution, Part 2 of Article 1, Title 29, C.R.S., by the Intergovernmental Agreement Establishing the Western Colorado Regional Dispatch Center to establish, operate, and provide an emergency services communications and dispatching center and related services; and

WHEREAS, on 21st day of September 2015, the Board of Directors of the Western Colorado Regional Dispatch Center (“Board”) executed an Intergovernmental Agreement, and Bylaws, Concerning the Establishment of the Western Colorado Regional Dispatch Center (“WestCO”); and

WHEREAS, WestCO is operated by the Board, which is made up of an appointed representative from each participating entity (“Member”); and

WHEREAS, 911 dispatchers are currently incorrectly categorized in the federal government’s Standard Occupational Classification System (“SOCS”) as an “Office and Administrative Support Occupation” (a category which also includes secretaries, office clerks, and taxicab dispatchers), which fails to recognize the central role that emergency dispatch centers have in public safety and homeland security, their employees’ specialized training and skills, and their uniquely stressful work environment; and

WHEREAS, the Supporting Accurate Views of Emergency Services Act of 2019 (“911 SAVES Act”) would reclassify 911 dispatchers as a Protective Service Occupation under SOCS alongside police, firefighters, security guards, lifeguards, and others whose job it is to protect our communities;

WHEREAS, the 911 SAVES Act was introduced in the U.S. House on March 3, 2019 and in the U.S. Senate on April 3, 2019, and

WHEREAS, WestCO plays a critical role in emergency response within Montrose County, Ouray County, and San Miguel County providing lifesaving services for the public, WestCO’s Member Agencies and Service Users; and

WHEREAS, classifying WestCO as an organization of emergency and first responders is necessary in order to acknowledge the critical role WestCO and its employees perform in public safety and homeland security, the uniquely stressful work environment, and employees’ specialized training and skills.

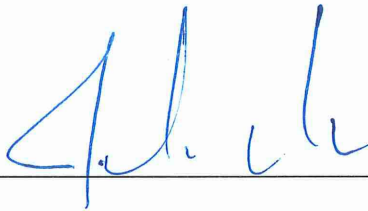
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE WESTERN COLORADO REGIONAL DISPATCH CENTER THAT:

1. **Classification.** The Western Colorado Regional Dispatch Center is hereby recognized as an agency of Emergency and First Responders.

2. Severability. If any part, section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Resolution is for any reason held to be invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions.
3. Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

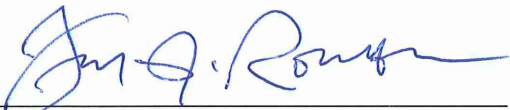
INTRODUCED, READ, and ADOPTED this 28th day of September 2020.

**WESTERN COLORADO REGIONAL DISPATCH
CENTER**

By: 

Chairman

ATTEST:

By: 
Secretary