A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CRAWFORD COUNTY, GEORGIA RESTATING THE CREATION OF THE CRAWFORD COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT, A LOCAL GOVERNMENT PUBLIC SAFETY ENTITY, ORGANIZED FOR THE PREVENTION OF AND PROTECTION FROM FIRES AND DISASTERS, NATURAL OR MAN-MADE; RATIFYING ALL PAST ACTIONS OF SAID FIRE DEPARTMENT SINCE ITS CREATION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, O.C.G.A. 25-3-4 authorizes the governing body of each county, to have the power to enact such ordinances, regulations, or fire and life safety codes as may be necessary to provide for fire protection and prevention; and

WHEREAS, the County is desirous of lowering the Insurance Services Offices rating; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners is desirous of providing benefits for the members of the Crawford County Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners requires compliance by the fire protection service with local, state, and federal standards, rules and regulations, and laws; and

WHEREAS, the County intends to expand and improve the fire protection services to better ensure the safety and protection of residents, and non-residents alike, to include fire prevention, public safety education, inspections and codes enforcement of state minimum fire standards; and

WHEREAS, the County of Crawford would like to ensure the health and safety of the members of the fire protection service through proper application and documentation of training, suitable appropriation and maintenance of resources, and establishing a chain of command for accountability of and for personnel; and

WHEREAS, the County of Crawford has previously enacted a resolution or resolutions establishing the Crawford County Fire Department but has over the course of time through attrition and failed filings, lost or misplaced any and all previous Resolutions concerning same.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Crawford County, Georgia and it is herby resolved by the authority of same as follows

1. The Crawford County Fire Department was created by resolution at some point in the 1980’s but there is no record of such creation and same is now reduced to a resolution for future benefit while ratifying all past actions taken reasonably in furtherance of said prior lost record.
2. The Crawford County Fire Department is a fully county paid and volunteer combination fire department to provide fire and other emergency and non-emergency services in accordance with state standards, and in compliance with O.C.G.A. 25-3-23.

3. There is created the position of fire chief, an employee of Crawford County appointed by the Board of Commissioners, who shall be the highest ranking officer of the fire department answerable to the Board of Commissioners of Crawford County.

4. All current and active members of the Crawford County Fire Department are accepted and welcomed as volunteer members at current rank with the Crawford County Fire Department until such time as to be decided by the Fire Chief, upon advisement from the Fire Officers and membership.

5. The Board of Commissioners of Crawford County is authorized to execute such codes and ordinances, upon advisement from the Fire Chief, as deemed necessary to complete this action.

It is further resolved that all past actions taken in reasonable furtherance of any and all lost resolutions, records, or documents are hereby ratified.

SO RESOLVED this ___ day of December, 2011.

Crawford County Board of Commissioners.

Mr. Dean Fripp - Chairman

Mr. Paul Chapman – Vice Chairman

Mr. Frank Hollis

Mr. Bobby Blasingame

Mr. Gene Hamlin

Attest – County Manager