

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

In the Matter of Approving Ambulance)
Service Area Plan Boundary Changes)
and a Memorandum of Understanding)
with Clatsop County)
ORDER NO. 16-2016

WHEREAS, each county in Oregon is required to have an Ambulance Service Area (ASA) Plan serving the entire County pursuant to ORS 682.062, and the Columbia County Ambulance Service Ordinance allows amendment of ASA boundaries by order as necessary; and

WHEREAS, two areas of Clatsop County are served by Columbia County fire and ambulance providers; and

WHEREAS, the River Ranch area of Northeast Clatsop County is one such area. It is a developed area within the Clatskanie Rural Fire Protection District and only accessible by road from Columbia County. The response times and standards for service differ significantly for adjoining neighbors, depending on which side of the county line their home is located; and

WHEREAS, the Mist-Birkenfeld area in Eastern Clatsop County is the other area. This area is served by the Mist-Birkenfeld Rural Fire Protection District and contains the development of Fishhawk Lake. The response time for ambulance service is 60 minutes for those in Clatsop County, while for some adjoining neighbors in Columbia County it is 12 minutes. The fire department is located near the county line in Columbia County; and

WHEREAS, the citizens in both areas would be more efficiently and effectively served, and the Districts providing service would have significantly less administrative cost, if the ASA Plan standards for Columbia County controlled these areas; and

WHEREAS, the governing boards of both the Clatskanie Rural Fire Protection District and Mist-Birkenfeld Rural Fire Protection District have requested this change and have agreed to execute the Memorandum of Understanding with Clatsop County and Columbia County supporting this boundary change;


NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED as follows:

1. Ambulance service for those areas of Clatsop County within the boundaries of the Clatskanie Rural Fire Protection District and the Mist-Birkenfeld Rural Fire Protection District shall be governed by the Ambulance Service Area (ASA) Plan for Columbia County, and the Chair is authorized to sign the Memorandum of Understanding with Clatsop County and the affected fire districts, which is attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by this reference.

2. The Columbia County ASA Plan is amended to provide that those areas of Clatsop County within the boundaries of the Clatskanie Rural Fire Protection District and the Mist-Birkenfeld Rural Fire Protection District within Clatsop County will be governed by the Columbia County ASA Plan pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding between the Counties and the fire districts.

DATED this 18th day of May, 2016.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR
COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

By: 
Anthony Hyde, Chair

By: 
Henry Heimuller, Commissioner

By: 
Earl Fisher, Commissioner

Approved as to form

By: 
Office of County Counsel

EXHIBIT A

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding is made this ____ day of _____, 2016 between **Columbia County**, a political subdivision of the State of Oregon, **Clatsop County** a political subdivision of the State of Oregon, **Clatskanie Rural Fire Protection District**, an Oregon special district, and **Mist-Birkenfeld Rural Fire Protection District**, an Oregon special district.

RECITALS

Each county in Oregon is required to have an Ambulance Service Area (ASA) Plan pursuant to ORS 682.062. Two areas of Clatsop County are served by Columbia County fire and ambulance providers.

The River Ranch area of Northeast Clatsop County is only accessible by road from Columbia County. It is a developed area within the boundaries of the Clatskanie Rural Fire Protection District. The response times for service and standards for service differ significantly for adjoining neighbors, depending on which side of the county line their home is located.

The Mist-Birkenfeld area in Eastern Clatsop County is within the boundaries of the Mist-Birkenfeld Rural Fire Protection District. This contains the development of Fishhawk Lake. The response time for ambulance service is 60 minutes for those in Clatsop County, while for some nearby neighbors in Columbia County it is 12 minutes. The fire department building is located near the county line in Columbia County.

The governing bodies of these volunteer fire districts currently must follow a different set of standards for each county and participate in ambulance service management committees in both counties. It would be more efficient for the fire districts to only have one set of standards and attend meetings in only one county.

The citizens in both these areas would be more efficiently and effectively served, and the fire districts providing service would have significantly less administrative cost, if the ASA standards for Columbia County controlled these areas.

Therefore, the Parties agree as follows:

Those areas of Clatsop County that are within the boundaries of the Clatskanie Rural Fire Protection District, and those areas that are within the boundaries of the Mist-Birkenfeld Rural Fire Protection District, will be included in the Columbia County Ambulance Service Area Plan and will be excluded from the Clatsop County Ambulance Service Area Plan for so long as this Agreement is in effect.

This agreement will remain in effect until terminated, and may be terminated on 180 days' written notice from one party to the others.

This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which will be considered an original and all of which together will constitute one and the same agreement.

**COLUMBIA COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**CLATSOP COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

By: **Anthony Hyde, Chair**

By: **Scott Lee, Chair**

**CLATSKANIE RURAL FIRE
PROTECTION DISTRICT**

**MIST-BIRKENFELD RURAL FIRE
PROTECTION DISTRICT**

By:
Title:

By:
Title: