

**AGENDA COVER MEMO**

W. G. B. I.  
04-3-10-5

AGENDA DATE: March 10, 2004

TO: Board of County Commissioners

DEPARTMENT: Health & Human Services

PRESENTED BY: Rob Rockstroh



AGENDA TITLE: In the Matter of Granting Authority to Cascade Medical Transport, Coastal Transportation Services, Mountain Retreat Transport, Northwest Regional LLC, and Secure Transportation to Carry Out Provision ORS 426.233 for Secure Transport Services

**I. MOTION**

TO GRANT AUTHORITY TO CASCADE MEDICAL TRANSPORT, COASTAL TRANSPORTATION SERVICES, MOUNTAIN RETREAT TRANSPORT, NORTHWEST REGIONAL LLC AND SECURE TRANSPORTATION TO CARRY OUT PROVISION ORS 426.233 FOR SECURE TRANSPORT SERVICES.

**II. ISSUE OR PROBLEM**

The Office of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OMHAS) is requiring secure transportation providers of mental health patients to be certified by OMHAS in order to continue to be reimbursed for these transport services effective March 1, 2004. ORS 426.233 specifies that the county governing body grant authority to the transport provider as part of this certification process.

**III. DISCUSSION**

**A. Background / Analysis**

The Office of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OMHAS) is charged with regulation of secure transportation providers that transport mental health patients in custody or on diversion to an approved holding hospital or non-hospital facility. The regulation of these providers includes issuance of certificate of approval by OMHAS to provide these services. A component of the certificate of approval is a letter from the governing body of the county granting authority to operate.

Board Order No. 01-1-3-6 granted authority to providers who contracted with Lane County to carry out secure transport duties per requirements of ORS 426.233. In May 2003, Lane County initiated a competitive process and requested Letters of Intent for secure transportation services. Providers that submitted a letter of intent and were certified by OMHAS were awarded a contract (Board Order No. 03-06-18-2).

The Office of Mental Health and Addiction Services is requiring that secure transport providers again be granted authority to carry out the provisions of ORS 426.233 through the governing body of the County. Upon approval by the Board of Commissioners, it is requested that a letter (attached) be signed by the Board Chairperson and be forwarded to OMHAS. OMHAS will then determine that the agency has met all of the eligibility requirements for certification. A letter of recommendation from the local mental health director requesting approval of the transport providers is also required. This authority to carry out the provisions of ORS 426.233 will be effective for two years after which transport providers will be required to renew their certification.

**B. Alternatives / Options**

1. To grant authority to Cascade Medical Transport, Coastal Transportation Services, Mountain Retreat Transport, Northwest Regional LLC and Secure Transportation to carry out provision ORS 426.233 for secure transport services.
2. Not to accept the motion. This option would prevent the Lane County Mental Health from being able to use a necessary service required to transport mental health patients to approved holding hospital or non-hospital facility.

**C. Recommendation**

To approve number one above.

**IV. IMPLEMENTATION**

Upon approval by the Board of County Commissioners, the Department of Health & Human Services will send the attached letter signed by the Chairperson of the Board of County Commissioners to the Office of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

**V. ATTACHMENTS**

Board Order  
Attachment A – letter

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, LANE COUNTY, OREGON**

**RESOLUTION AND ORDER:** ) IN THE MATTER OF GRANTING AUTHORITY TO CASCADE  
) MEDICAL TRANSPORT, COASTAL TRANSPORTATION  
) SERVICES, MOUNTAIN RETREAT TRANSPORT,  
) NORTHWEST REGIONAL LLC, AND SECURE  
) TRANSPORTATION TO CARRY OUT PROVISION ORS  
) 426.233 FOR SECURE TRANSPORT SERVICES

WHEREAS, The Board of County Commissioners has accepted revenues pursuant to the 2003-2005 Biennium County Financial Assistance Contract #20-001 with the state Department of Human Services; and

WHEREAS, the ability to transport mental health patients who are in custody to approved holding hospitals or a non-hospital facility is required by Department of Human Services, Office of Mental Health and Addiction Services; and

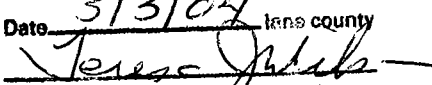
WHEREAS, the Office of Mental Health and Addiction Services is requiring secure transport providers to obtain a letter from the Board of County Commissioners granting authority to transport mental health patients in custody or on diversion.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Board of County Commissioners grant authority to Cascade Medical Transport, Coastal Transportation Services, Mountain Retreat Transport, Northwest Regional LLC, and Secure Transportation to carry out provision ORS 426.233 for secure transport services.

DATED this \_\_\_\_ day of March 2004

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Bobby Green Sr., Chair  
Lane County Board of Commissioners

APPROVED AS TO FORM  
Date 3/3/04 Lane County  
  
OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL

**Attachment A**

March 10, 1004

Mr. Jerry R. Williams  
Office of Mental Health and Addiction Services  
2575 Bittern St., NE  
PO Box 14250  
Salem , OR 97309-0740

Dear Mr. Williams:

The Lane County Board of Commissioners has granted authority to Cascade Medical Transport, Coastal Transportation Services, Mountain Retreat Transport, Northwest Regional LLC, and Secure Transportation to carry out provision ORS 426.233 for secure transport services.

Sincerely,

Bobby Green, Sr., Chair  
Lane County Board of Commissioners