

**COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN FRESNO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
AND THE BALD MOUNTAIN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

Made for the following services:

- FIRE PROTECTION
- MEDICAL SERVICES
- RESCUE SERVICES
- FIRE PREVENTION AND CODE ENFORCEMENT
- EMERGENCY DISPATCH SERVICES
- FIRE APARATUS REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE
- HAZMAT RESPONSE SERVICES

THIS AGREEMENT, made and entered into and effective this 1st day of July, 2020, by and between The Fresno County Fire Protection District (hereinafter referred to as "District") and the Bald Mountain Fire Protection District (BALD MTN FPD), whereby it is agreed as follows:

Article I.     SECTION I: PURPOSE

The purpose of the Agreement is to arrange for the DISTRICT, through its Cooperative Fire Protection Programs and current Fire Protection Reimbursement Agreement ("CAL FIRE Agreement") with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection ("CAL FIRE") to provide BALD MTN FPD with Emergency Dispatch, Fire Prevention and Code Enforcement Services (hereinafter called "fire protection services"). This Agreement is entered into pursuant to the authority granted by Government Code Sections 55603, 55603.5, 55606, 55632 and 55642, and will provide fire protection services. The parties hereto understand and agree that services to be provided under this agreement must be consistent with the terms and conditions of the CAL FIRE Agreement and that no services may be provided by the District under this agreement and the District is under no obligation to provide services under this agreement that are not consistent and in conformity with the CAL FIRE Agreement.

SECTION II: DESIGNATION OF FIRE CHIEF

A. The DISTRICT Fire Chief appointed by the Board of Directors of the DISTRICT, or his designee, (hereinafter referred to as "Chief") shall represent the DISTRICT during the period of this Agreement and Chief shall, under the supervision and direction of the DISTRICT'S Board of Directors, have charge of the organization described in Exhibit "A", attached hereto and made a part hereof, for the purpose of providing fire protection services as deemed necessary to satisfy the needs of both the DISTRICT and BALD MTN FPD, except upon those lands wherein other agencies of government have responsibility for the same or similar fire protection services.

B. BALD MTN FPD shall assign an existing Chief Officer or designee as the BALD MTN FPD contract representative ("Bald Mountain Fire Protection District Representative"). The DISTRICT Fire Chief shall communicate with the Bald Mountain Fire Protection District Representative for directing the fire protection services provided to BALD MTN FPD as set forth in Exhibit "B".

C. The DISTRICT will be allowed flexibility in the assignment of available personnel and equipment in order to provide the fire protection services, rescue and medical aid services as agreed upon herein. (Except for Emergency Dispatch Services Contracts)

### SECTION III: PAYMENT FOR SERVICES

A. BALD MTN FPD shall annually appropriate a fiscal year budget to support the fire services designated at a level of service mutually agreed upon by both parties and as set forth in Exhibit "C." This Exhibit may be amended in writing by mutual agreement by both parties in the event of an increase of salary or expenses or when BALD MTN FPD requests an increase in services.

1. Any changes to the salaries or expenses set forth in Exhibit "C" made necessary by action of the Legislature, CAL FIRE or any other public agency with authority to direct changes in the level of salaries or expenses, shall be paid from the funds represented as set forth in Exhibit "C." There shall be no obligation on the part of BALD MTN FPD to expend or appropriate any sum in excess of Exhibit "C" which exceeds the yearly appropriation of BALD MTN FPD for the purposes of the Agreement. Except for unscheduled repairs to BALD MTN FPD owned equipment. These costs will be billed at an hourly shop rate plus actual costs of parts. If within thirty (30) days after notice, in writing, from the DISTRICT to BALD MTN FPD that the actual cost of maintaining the services specified in Exhibit "C" as a result of action by the Legislature, CAL FIRE or other public agency will exceed the total amount specified therein, and BALD MTN FPD has failed to agree to make available the necessary additional funds, the DISTRICT shall have the right to unilaterally reduce the services furnished under this Agreement by an appropriate amount and shall promptly notify BALD MTN FPD, in writing, specifying the services to be reduced. Personnel reductions resulting solely due to an increase in employee salaries or expenses occurring after signing this Agreement and set forth in Exhibit "C" to this Agreement shall not be subject to relocation expense reimbursement by BALD MTN FPD. If BALD MTN FPD desires to add funds to the total included herein to cover the cost of increased salaries or services necessitated by actions described herein, such increase shall be accomplished by an amendment to Exhibit "C" and approved by the parties hereto.

2. In the event BALD MTN FPD requests an increase in services and paragraph A.1. of this Section is not applicable, an amendment to Exhibit "C" may be approved by the parties hereto.

B. The DISTRICT provides fire personnel, equipment and services through its CAL FIRE Agreement. In the event BALD MTN FPD desires a reduction in STATE civil service employees or services assigned to BALD MTN FPD as provided for in Exhibit "C," when paragraph A.1. of this Section is not applicable, BALD MTN FPD shall provide one hundred twenty (120) days written notice of the requested reduction. Proper notification shall include the following: (1) The total amount of reduction; (2) The effective date of the reduction; and (3) The number of employees, by classification, affected by the proposed reduction. If such notice is not provided, BALD MTN FPD shall reimburse COUNTY for relocation costs incurred by STATE because of the reduction, in addition to any other remedies available resulting from the reduction in services.

C. BALD MTN FPD shall pay the DISTRICT actual costs for fire protection services pursuant to this agreement in an amount not to exceed that set forth in Exhibit "C," as amended. The DISTRICT shall make a claim to BALD MTN FPD for the actual cost of contracted services, pursuant to Exhibit "C," on a bi-annual basis with the first payment due on January 31<sup>st</sup>, covering the period July 1<sup>st</sup> thru December 31<sup>st</sup>. The second payment will be due on July 31<sup>st</sup>, covering the period January 1<sup>st</sup> thru June 30<sup>th</sup>. BALD MTN FPD shall pay the claim within thirty (30) days after receipt thereof.

D. The DISTRICT Fire Chief is authorized to negotiate and execute any amendments to Exhibit "C" of this Agreement on behalf of the DISTRICT without further authority from the DISTRICT'S Board of Directors. BALD MTN FPD shall designate a "Contract Administrator" who shall, under the supervision and direction of BALD MTN FPD, be authorized to execute amendments to Exhibit "C" on behalf of BALD MTN FPD.

#### SECTION IV: INITIAL TERM AND RENEWAL

A. The term of this Agreement shall be from **July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2021**. Either party to this Agreement may terminate this Agreement by providing a written notice of termination to the other party hereto no less than 90 days prior to the expiration of the term hereof. If such notice is given unilaterally by the DISTRICT except any notice issued because of actions of CAL FIRE or BALD MTN FPD, the DISTRICT agrees to continue to provide fire protection services to BALD MTN FPD until such time as BALD MTN FPD has a reasonable opportunity to implement an alternative fire protection service. In no event shall this Agreement be terminated by either party prior to June 30, 2020.

B. Ninety (90) days prior to the date of expiration of this agreement, BALD MTN FPD shall give the DISTRICT written notice of whether BALD MTN FPD intends to enter into a new agreement with the DISTRICT for fire protection services, if so, whether BALD MTN FPD intends to change the level of fire protection services from that provided by this agreement.

C. If BALD MTN FPD fails to provide such notice, as defined in paragraph B above, the DISTRICT shall have the option to extend this agreement for a period of up to one year from the original termination date and to continue providing services at the same

or reduced level as the DISTRICT determines would be appropriate during the extended period of this agreement. Six months prior to the date of expiration of this agreement, the DISTRICT shall give written notice to BALD MTN FPD of any extension of this agreement and any changes in the level of fire protections services the DISTRICT will provide during the extended period of this agreement. Services provided and obligations incurred by the DISTRICT during an extended period shall be accepted by BALD MTN FPD as services and obligations under the terms of this agreement.

D. The cost of services provided by the DISTRICT during the extended period shall be based upon the amounts that would have been charged BALD MTN FPD during the fiscal year in which the extended period falls had a new agreement been entered into. Payment by BALD MTN FPD for services rendered by the DISTRICT during the extended period shall be provided as set forth in Exhibit "C," as amended.

#### SECTION V: TERMINATION

Neither the DISTRICT nor BALD MTN FPD shall have the power to abrogate or otherwise terminate this Agreement during the term set forth in Section IV. This Agreement may, however, be terminated by the voters of either the DISTRICT or the BALD MTN FPD pursuant to Government Code §55603.5. (Except for Emergency Dispatch Services Contracts)

#### SECTION VI: COOPERATIVE OPERATIONS

All fire protection services contemplated under this Agreement shall be performed by both parties to this Agreement working as one unit; therefore, personnel and equipment belonging to either BALD MTN FPD or the DISTRICT may be temporarily dispatched elsewhere from time to time for mutual aid.

#### SECTION VII: MUTUAL AID

When rendering mutual aid or assistance as authorized in Health and Safety Code Sections 13050 and 13054, the DISTRICT shall, at the written request of BALD MTN FPD, demand payment of charges and seek reimbursement of BALD MTN FPD costs for personnel as funded herein, under authority given by Health and Safety Code Sections 13051 and 13054. The DISTRICT, in seeking said reimbursement, will represent the BALD MTN FPD in following the procedures set forth in Health and Safety Code Section 13052. Any recovery of BALD MTN FPD costs, less extraordinary collection expenses, will be credited to the BALD MTN FPD. (Except for Emergency Dispatch Services Contracts)

## SECTION VIII: SUPPRESSION COST RECOVERY

As provided in Health and Safety Code Section 13009, the DISTRICT may bring an action for collection of suppression costs of any fire caused by negligence, violation of law, or failure to correct noticed fire safety violations. When using BALD MTN FPD equipment and personnel under the terms of this agreement, the DISTRICT may, on request of BALD MTN FPD, bring such an action for collection of costs incurred by BALD MTN FPD. In such a case BALD MTN FPD appoints and designates the DISTRICT as its agent in said collection proceedings. In the event of recovery, the DISTRICT shall apportion to BALD MTN FPD its pro-rata proportion of recovery, less the reasonable pro-rata costs including legal fees.

In all such instances, the DISTRICT shall give timely notice of the possible application of Health and Safety Code Section 13009 to the officer designated by BALD MTN FPD.

## SECTION IX: PROPERTY ACCOUNTING

All personal property provided by BALD MTN FPD and by the DISTRICT for the purpose of providing Emergency Dispatch Services under the terms of this Agreement shall be marked and accounted for in such a manner as to conform to the standard operating procedure established by the DISTRICT Fire Department for the segregation, care, and use of the respective property of each.

## SECTION X: INDEMNIFICATION

A. The DISTRICT, to the extent permitted by law, agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless BALD MTN FPD, its officers, agents and employees from any and all claims for economic losses accruing or resulting to any and all contractors, subcontractors, materialmen, laborers and any other person, firm, or corporation furnishing or supplying work services, materials or supplies in connection with any activities under this agreement; and from any and all claims and losses accruing or resulting to any person, firm or corporation who may be injured or damaged by the DISTRICT in the performance of any activities under this agreement, except where such injury or damage arose from the sole negligence or willful misconduct attributable to BALD MTN FPD or from acts not within the scope of duties to be performed pursuant to this agreement.

B. BALD MTN FPD, to the extent permitted by law, agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the DISTRICT, its officers, agents and employees from any and all claims for economic losses accruing or resulting to any and all contractors, subcontractors, materialmen, laborers and any other person, firm, or corporation furnishing or supplying work services, materials or supplies in connection with any activities under this agreement; and from any and all claims and losses accruing or

resulting to any person, firm or corporation who may be injured or damaged by BALD MTN FPD in the performance of any activities under this agreement, except where such injury or damage arose from the sole negligence or willful misconduct attributable to the DISTRICT or from acts not within the scope of duties to be performed pursuant to this agreement.

C. Each party will provide the other with a Certificate of Insurance with liability coverage shown in an amount of not less than \$1,000,000.00

#### SECTION XI: AUDIT

The DISTRICT/ BALD MTN FPD agree that their designated representative shall have the right to review and to copy any records and supporting documentation pertaining to the performance of this Agreement. The DISTRICT/ BALD MTN FPD agree to maintain such records for possible audit for a minimum of three (3) years after final payment, unless a longer period of records retention is stipulated, and to allow the auditor(s) access to such records during normal business hours and to allow interviews of any employees who might reasonably have information related to such records.

#### SECTION XII: DISPUTES

BALD MTN FPD shall select and appoint a "Contract Administrator" who shall, under the supervision and direction of BALD MTN FPD, be available for contract resolution or policy intervention with the DISTRICT, when, upon determination by the DISTRICT Fire Chief that a situation exists under this agreement in which a decision to serve the interest of BALD MTN FPD has the potential to conflict with the DISTRICT interest or policy. Any dispute concerning a question of fact arising under the terms of this agreement which is not disposed of within a reasonable period of time (ten days), shall be brought to the attention of the Contract Administrator.

Disputes that are unable to be resolved by BALD MTN FPD and the DISTRICT representatives will attempt to be resolved through arbitration. If arbitration is unsuccessful, venue for litigation will be the County of Fresno.

#### SECTION XIII: ATTORNEY'S FEES

If BALD MTN FPD fails to remit payments for services rendered pursuant to any provision of this agreement, the DISTRICT may seek recovery of fees through arbitration and/or litigation, in addition to all other remedies available.

In the event of arbitration or litigation between the DISTRICT and BALD MTN FPD to enforce any of the provisions of this Agreement or any right of either party hereto, the unsuccessful party to such litigation agrees to pay the prevailing party's costs and expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees, all of which shall be included in and as a part of the judgment rendered in such arbitration or litigation.

SECTION XIV: DELIVERY OF NOTICES

Any notices to be served pursuant to this Agreement shall be considered delivered when deposited in the United States mail and addressed to:

FRESNO COUNTY FIRE  
PROTECTION DISTRICT

BALD MOUNTAIN FIRE  
PROTECTION DISTRICT

Mark A. Johnson, Chief

210 S. Academy Ave.

Sanger, CA 93657

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Provisions of this section do not preclude any notices being delivered in person to the addresses shown above. Delivery in person shall constitute service hereunder, effective when such service is made.

SECTION XV: ENTIRE CONTRACT

This Agreement contains the whole contract between the parties for the provision of Fire Prevention and Code Enforcement and Emergency Dispatch Services. It may be amended or modified upon the mutual written consent of the parties hereto. This agreement does NOT supplement other specific agreements entered into by both partners for equipment or facilities, and excepting those equipment or facilities agreements, this agreement cancels and supersedes any previous agreement for the same or similar services.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the duly authorized officials of the parties hereto have, in their respective capacities, set their hands as of the date first hereinabove written.

Dated: June 25, 2020

BALD MOUNTAIN FIRE  
PROTECTION DISTRICT

By: Glenn Sprague

Title: Board President

ATTEST:

By: Deborah Beel

Title: Clerk to Board

(SEAL)

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

FRESNO COUNTY FIRE  
PROTECTION DISTRICT

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
President, Board of Directors

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board

By: \_\_\_\_\_

(SEAL)

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
FRESNO COUNTY FIRE  
PROTECTION DISTRICT  
LEGAL COUNSEL