

Catherine McMullen **County Clerk**

Board of Property Tax Appeals (BOPTA)

BOPTA Clerk, Michael Newgard, MNewgard@clackamas.us | 1710 Red Soils Court, Suite 100 503-655-8662

Oregon City, OR 97045

What is BoPTA?

BoPTA is the Board of Property Tax Appeals

Who (The Board) - The BoPTA (Board of Property Tax Appeals) Board is a board of community members. All members of the BoPTA Board are appointed by the Clackamas County Board of Commissioners and may consist of residents of the county who are not employees or members of a governing body of the county or of any taxing district within the county.

Who (You) - Those who own (or have an interest in) property within Clackamas County may appeal their Real Market Value (RMV) as assessed on their property tax statement to the BoPTA Board.

What - The Board considers the petitioner's evidence of a lower RMV and information provided by the Assessor's Office. The burden of proof of a lower RMV is on the petitioner - the party seeking relief.

Where - If you are interested in filing a petition, serving on the Board, or attending your hearing, all BoPTA activity in Clackamas County occurs at the Clackamas County Clerk's Office:

> **Clackamas County Clerk** 1710 Red Soils Ct

Oregon City, OR 97045

Why - Voters approved Ballot Measure 50 in May 1997. Measure 50 decreased many tax bills and made future taxes more predictable. It also preserved some provisions of Measure 47 (passed in November 1996).

Another component of Measure 50 was the creation of the Board of Property Tax Appeals – a citizen committee in each county given the power to adjudicate Real Market Values in case a property owner does not agree with their assessed value.

When -Assessment date (when value is measured): January 1st, 2023

> Tax statements mailed out by the end of October 2023 by January 2nd, 2024 File BoPTA appeal petition

February through April (if there are many petitions) **Board hearings**

This packet is designed to help petitioners have a successful BoPTA appeal. It recaps the three different chances people have to appeal their property value, a page full of tips for a successful process, information from the Department of Revenue, a description of what good evidence is for you to present to the BoPTA Board, a description of what an "arm's length" transaction is, and how to appeal the decision of your local BOPTA Board.

Clackamas County Clerk



Board of Property Tax Appeals (BOPTA)

Three Chances to discuss your property value

#1 - Speak with Assessor's Office

Copied verbatim from the office of Assessment and Taxation: "Contact the Assessor's office at 503-655-8671 if you have questions regarding your property value. If you feel the market value shown on your tax statement is too high, we encourage you to file an appeal with the Board of Property Tax Appeals."



Clackamas County Assessor

150 Beavercreek Road Room #135 Oregon City, OR 97045 Phone: (503) 655-8671

<u>propertytaxinfo@clackamas.us</u> <u>https://www.clackamas.us/at</u>

#2 - BoPTA Board Hearing

After discussing your property value with the Assessor's Office, if you still think your property values are still high, then turn in your BoPTA petition to the Clackamas County Clerk's Office before the deadline of January 2nd, 2024. You must submit your petition and five copies of evidence to the:



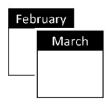
Clackamas County Clerk

Board of Property Tax Appeals

1710 Red Soils Ct, Suite #100 Oregon City, OR 97045

https://www.clackamas.us/taxappeals

The Board convenes in February 2024 and hearings will start that month as well. The entire process is completed before April 15th.



#3 – Appealing to Magistrate

If you wish to appeal the decision of the Board of Property Tax Appeals, you may file an appeal with the Magistrate Division of the Oregon Tax Court. You appeal by filing a written complaint with the Oregon Tax Court. The complaint must be filed **within 30 days** after the BoPTA Board Order is mailed or delivered to you.

The Board of Property Tax Appeals does not have the authority to grant an exemption. A petition requesting an exemption or partial exemption will be dismissed for lack of jurisdiction. If the Assessor has disqualified the property from exempt status, the owner must appeal directly to the Magistrate Division. Complaint forms and fees should be mailed to:

Clerk, Oregon Tax Court

Magistrate Division 1163 State Street Salem, OR 97304-2563

Clackamas County Clerk



Board of Property Tax Appeals (BOPTA)

Tips for a Successful BoPTA process

Tip #1 – You must provide proof

The Board considers the petitioner's evidence and information provided by the Assessor's Office. The Board must always keep in mind that the burden of proof is on the petitioner as the party seeking relief.

Tip #2 - Property value vs. taxes

The "Board of Property Tax Appeals" is poorly named. Please remember that the process helps property owners appeal the Real Market Value assigned to their property. It is not a tool for challenging taxes.

Tip #3 – Learn the important acronyms (RMV, MAV, and AV)

RMV – Real Market Value

- The amount a typical seller would accept or what a typical buyer would offer to pay.
- If the property has no immediate market value, its real market value is the amount of money that would justly compensate the owner for loss of the property.

MAV - Maximum Assessed Value

- MAV is a term created by Measure 50 in 1997. MAV is the greater of 103% of the prior years Assessed Value or 100% of the prior year's MAV – plus the MAV of any exception value.

AV – Assessed Value

 Assessed Value is the lesser of the property's Real Market Value or Maximum Assessed Value.

Tip #4 – BoPTA Board Members

The BoPTA Board is a volunteer citizens' group. Please note they are not employees of the County but simply community members like you who are reimbursed only \$50 or \$100 per BoPTA day – not paid hourly.

Tip #5 – Arm's Length Sales

One of the best indicators of Real Market Value can be the sale of the property itself – but it needs to be an "arm's length" sale. The sale was at "arm's length" if:

- Neither of the parties involved was under any undue duress.
- Both parties were informed.
- The property was marketed under "normal" marketing conditions.
- The property was advertised for sale on the open market for a reasonable period.
- The parties involved were not related or business partners.

Tip #6 – Assessment Date

The BoPTA Board considers the value of your property on the Assessment date: January 1, 2023. All evidence should be based on or near that date and what was available on that date, not after.

Board of Property Tax Appeals Filing Information



www.oregon.gov/dor

Please read this information before completing your petition.

Your county's board of property tax appeals (BOPTA) is authorized by law to hear appeals of the **value** of your property, including real market, maximum assessed, specially assessed, or assessed values. BOPTA does not hear appeals of the property tax you pay.

A mistake many taxpayers make when filing a petition is to present the board a study of the difference between their property tax and their neighbor's property tax. If you want the board to reduce the market value of your property, you need to provide evidence of your property's **value**, not of the tax you pay.

Another mistake taxpayers often make is to compare the value on the tax roll of their property to the value on the tax roll of their neighbor's property. This does not provide proof of the **value** of the property being appealed. If you present only this type of information in support of your request, you have not provided the board with evidence of the value of your property.

Generally, to be successful in your appeal, you must provide evidence of the **market value** of your property on January 1 of the assessment year. This is the day the assessor uses to establish the real market value of your property.

Listed below are the types of evidence you could use to convince the board that your property's real market value should be reduced.

- Documentation of an arm's-length sale of the property that occurred close to January 1 of the assessment year.
- A fee appraisal dated close to January 1 of the assessment year which reflects the property's value
- Proof that the property has been listed for sale on the open market for a reasonable period of time at a price below the real market value on the tax roll.
- A comparison of properties similar to yours in location, size and quality that have sold close to January 1 of the assessment year. If there are differences between the properties, the differences must be accounted for in the comparison of values.
- Cost of new construction that occurred close to January 1 of the assessment year and was performed by a professional contractor.
- Cost to repair your property. You must provide written estimates of the cost of the repairs.
- For commercial property, documentation of income and expense information or a comparable sales analysis.

Note: A reduction in the real market value of your property may not result in a decrease in your property tax.



BOPTA

Board of Property Tax Appeals

Frequently Asked Questions

When are the filing deadlines and what is the general timeline for BOPTA?

- Filing begins after tax statements are mailed in October
- Filing period ends January 2nd, 2024, petitions will be marked LATE if postmarked/received later than
 January 2nd, 2024. Late petitions are heard at the discretion of the board
- If you selected to attend your hearing, hearing notices will be mailed out near the end of January, if you
 do not wish to attend your hearing, the only notice you will receive is the hearing decision
- Hearing orders are mailed out within five business days after your hearing
- Hearings begin on or after the first Monday in February of 2024

Why do I need to provide five copies of my petition or evidence?

In an attempt to avoid charging a fee to file a petition like Multnomah County (\$35) and nine other counties, and to reduce our paper costs, we request FIVE copies of your petition be included when you submit your appeal. Three copies are for the three BOPTA Board members, one is for the Board Clerk, and the last copy is retained for five years per state records retention statutes.

I want to attend the hearing, but there are dates between Feb. to April I am unavailable. What do I do?

If you want to attend the hearing, check yes in block 23. Write next to those boxes any dates/times you will not be able to attend a hearing. Hearings begin in February and are held Monday through Thursday. When a date has been scheduled for your hearing, it cannot be changed. Inclement weather that closes County offices are the only exception. Zoom may be available but not guarateed.

**Fill out on page one of Form OR-B-RPP*

Attendance at hearing If attending: Please write down dates you are unavailable to attend a hearing between Feb - April 15th

Will you or your designated representative attend the hearing?

Yes No Zoom Meeting option

If you choose not to be present at the hearing, BOPTA will make a decision based on the written evidence you submit.

When should I submit my evidence?

Submitting evidence in advance of your hearing will expedite your hearing. This allows the Assessor's office advance time to look at your evidence and your request. Stipulated agreements for property values can occur prior to hearings, however, they are not guaranteed and are less likely of occurring the later you turn in evidence.



BOPTA

Board of Property Tax Appeals

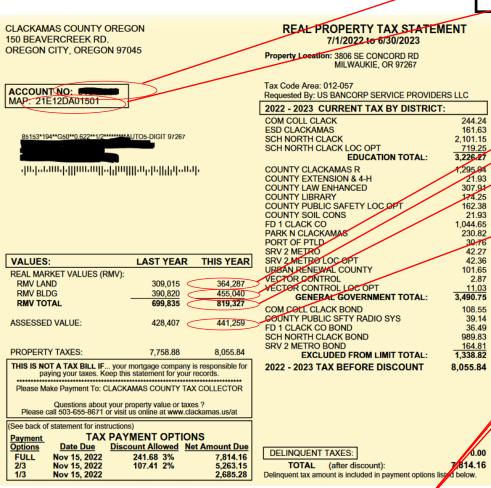
BOPTA Petition Checklist

- ⇒ I have written the name of the owner or person or business, other than owner, obligated to pay taxes in the appropriate space on the petition.
- ⇒ I have written my phone numbers in the appropriate spaces on the petition.
- ⇒ I have written the name and mailing address, including zip code, where the Hearing Notice and Final Order are to be sent in the appropriate spaces on the petition.
- ⇒ If I am **not** the owner of the property, I have completed the information regarding who I am, my relationship to the owner, included any licensing information and filled out an "<u>Authorization to Represent</u>" form.
- ⇒ If I do **not** wish to be present at the hearing, I have checked the box indicating I do not wish to be present or to be represented at the hearing. If I am unavailable during February to April of 2024, I have written that information in the same section on the petition.
- ⇒ I have written the Assessor's Account Number and the Map and Tax Lot Number in the appropriate spaces on the petition (from the 2023 property tax statement) and I have attached a copy of the 2023 property tax statement.
- ⇒ I have written the street address (if applicable) and city of the property being appealed in the appropriate space on the petition.
- ⇒ I have written the **current** values for the 2023-2024 tax year (from the 2023 property tax statement or by calling the County Assessor at 503-655-8671) in the appropriate space(s) on the petition **and** I have attached a copy of the 2023 property tax statement.
- ⇒ I have written the value(s) I am requesting in the appropriate space(s) on the petition and I have double checked my requested value figures to be sure the total is correct.
- ⇒ I have provided a statement of the Basis of Appeal and attached supporting documentation.
- ⇒ I have completed the "Evidence of Real Market Value of Property" section concerning the purchase/sale/appraisal/changes of the property.
- ⇒ I have signed the petition. If I am **not** the owner of the property, the representing attorney, or an officer of the corporation appealing, I have attached a copy of the Power of Attorney or other legal document which gives me the authority to file this appeal. If I am the person who has an interest in the property that obligates me to pay the taxes, I have attached a copy of the contract, lease, or other intervening document that entitles me to appeal the value of the property.
- ⇒ I understand all supporting evidence, not to exceed 8 1/2" x 14", including pictures, which I submit to support my appeal

How to complete the BoPTA forms

For the best results, complete each of the fields on your petition that pertain to your property and situation. Have the correct form. An account number that starts with zero needs the real property petition Form OR-B-RPP.

Find the information on your tax statement that match the fields on your petition and enter that information shown below.



Then, enter the values you believe your property is worth in the column(s) "RMV requested" next to the Assessor's values.

Send or deliver five copies of your petition and evidence to:

Form OR-B-RPP				For official use o	nly
Page 1 of 2, 150-310-063				Petition number and date	receiv
(epartment of Revenue				
Oregon Board of Property Tax	Appeals Real Prope	rty Petition			
for Clackamas	County				
 Read all instructions carefully before 	re completing this form.				
 Please print or type the requested in 		of this petition.			
• Complete one petition form for eac	account vou're annealin	ď			
operty information					
Assessor's account number (from your tax statemer	it) 25	5 Assessor's map and t	ax lot number (from your tax	statement)	
Street address and city where property is located		27 Property type	Residential Cor	mmercial Farm	
		Mfd structure	Multi-family For	est Industrial	
-310-063 (Rev. 05-17)	ease turn over—form continue	s on back	•		
					i
	Real market value (RM	MV) from	RMV request		
	tax statement or assesso		(for property as existed on a		
	tux statement or assesse				
28 Land	\$ -	1	\$		
28 Land 29 Buildings, machinery, etc.			\$		

		Real market value (RMV) from tax statement or assessor's records		RMV requested			
	28 Land	\$ _	soi s records	(for property as existed on assessment date)			
	29 Buildings, machinery, etc.	\$ -		* \$			
	30 Manufactured structure	S		\$			
			-//				
	31 Total RMV 32 Total SAV of specially	Managements in all appoints appoints appoints applied to your					
	assessed portion (farmland,	Specially assessed Plassedead the instructions to see if this section applies to your proper Specially assessed value (SAV) from SAV requested (SAV is limited to the qualification.					
	historic property, government restricted low income multi-unit		assessor's records		allowed by law)		
	housing, or property that qualifies as "open space").	\$		\$			
		Assessed value from tax statement or asse		AV Requested (AV is limited to the calculation allowed by law)			
	33 Total AV	S- ///		\$			
	Evidence of property value Inclu	ude documentation (recently	recorded deeds. li	stings, appraisals. cons	struction bids, etc.)		
	34. Check any of the sellowing that applied		•				
	Property safe/purchase Date Purchase	chase phos	Short sale	or foreclosure?	Yes No		
	Property listing Date Ask	ng prige					
	Property appraisal	raiser	Finding				
	Date // P						
	Condition issues/damages What co	es. What condition issues or damages exist? How long have they existed? Enclose additional pages if necessary:					
	Changes to property—What changes	have been made? When? Enclose	additional pages if	necessary:			
	Other for example, market data)						
	Specify and provide a short explanation or	documentation:					
	75 Why do you think the value of your p	property is incorrect? (Answer th	e guestion in the sp	ace provided: enclose add	itional pages, if necessary.		
//	Provide enough information to suppo			,	,		
	Declaration: I declare under the pena knowledge, it is true, cor	ities for false swearing [OHS 305 rrect, and complete.	.990(4)] that I have e	xamined this document, a	nd to the best of my		
	Sign Approx	titioner's representative (attach authorization if necessary) 27 Date Print or type name			37 Date		
	SIGN HERE						
	Please return this petition	with five copies to:	When	and where to file yo	ur petition		
	Clackamas County Clerks Offic			n the office of the county			
_	Board of Property Tax Appeals 1710 Red Soils Court, Suite 10		delivered by Dece	petitions. Your petition r mber 31 to the county cle	ork's office in the county		
	Oregon City, OR 97045	0		ty is located. If Decembe			
	See Publication OR-BOPTA-CL on w	ww.oregon.gov/dor/forms.		tition to the address sho			

Form OR-B-RPP

(Rev. 12-02-20)	Oregon Department of Revenue				Petition number and date received
(erty Tax Appeals Real Prop	perty Petit	ion		
		,			
for	County				
	ully before completing this form				
	uested information on both side	-	tion.		
	for each account you're appear	•			
	tion(s) to the address shown on				
	ured structures, not the Personal				
• Include a copy of your tax	statement. In Clackamas County: in	iclude five copi	ies of petition, ar	nd all evidence.	•
Petitioner (person in whose	name petition is filed)				
1 Check the box that applies:	Owner.				
	Person or business, other than owr	ner, obligated t	o pay taxes (atta	ach proof of ob	oligation).
2 Name-individual, corporation, or o	other business		3 Email address	(optional)	
4 Phone number		1	1		
Daytime		Evening			
5 Mailing address (street or PO Box)					
6 City			7 State	8 ZIP code	
•					
For business use only	g for corporation, LLC, or other business	10 Ti	ttle (for example, p	resident, vice pre	esident, tax manager, etc.)
If a representative is named or	n line 11, all correspondence rega	arding this pe	tition will be ma	ailed or delive	ered to the representative.
Representative Complete people q	e this section when the petition ualify to act as an authorized re	is signed by presentative.	an authorized See the instru	representativ	re of petitioner. Only certain ist of who qualifies.
11 Name of representative			12 Email address	s (optional)	
10 Phone much an					
13 Phone number					
Daytime		Evening			
14 Mailing address (street or PO Box)				
15.00					
15 City			16 State	17 ZIP code	
18 Relationship to petitioner named of	on line 2				
19 Oregon state bar number	20 Oregon appraiser license number	21 Oregon bro	ker license numbe	ar 22 Oreg	gon CPA or PA permit or S.E.A. number
19 Oregon state bar number	20 Oregon appraiser license number	21 Olegon blo	ikei licelise liullibe	22 016(gon GFA of FA permit of 3.E.A. number
	ppeal will be made payable to the ver, if a representative is designate				

For official use only

Attendance at hearing If attending: Please write down dates you are unavailable to attend a hearing between Feb - April 15th Will you or your designated representative attend the hearing? Yes No Zoom Meeting option

If you choose not to be present at the hearing, BOPTA will make a decision based on the written evidence you submit.

Property Information	
24 Assessor's account number (from your tax statement)	25 Assessor's map and tax lot number (from your tax statement)
26 Street address and city where property is located	27 Property type Residential Commercial Farm Mfd structure Multi-family Forest Industrial

Form OR-B-RPP

Page 2 of 2, 150-310-063

(Rev. 12-02-20)

Oregon Department of Revenue

	Oregon Departmen	t of Hoveride				
	Real market value (RMV) from tax statement or assessor's records		RMV requested (for property as existed on assessment date)			
28 Land –	\$			\$		
29 Buildings, machinery, etc	\$			\$		
30 Manufactured structure -	\$		\$			
31 Total RMV	\$			\$		
32 Total SAV of specially	Most property isn't s	pecially assessed. Please	e read the i	nstructions to see if this sect	tion applies to your property.	
assessed portion (farmland, historic property, government- restricted low income multi-unit		Specially assessed value (SAV) from assessor's records		SAV requested (SAV is limited to the qualifications and calculations allowed by law)		
housing, or property that qualifies as "open space").	\$	\$		\$		
		Assessed value (AV) from tax statement or assessor's records		AV Requested (AV is limited to the calculation allowed by law)		
33 Total AV	\$					
Evidence of property value	Include documentation	on (recently recorded	l deeds, l	istings, appraisals, con	struction bids, etc.)	
34. Check any of the following that ap	plied to the property at c	or near the assessment of	date and th	ne reason for appealing. Inc	clude documentation.	
Property sale/purchase Date	Purchase price	urchase price		ale or foreclosure?		
Property listing Date	Asking price					
Property appraisal			C:I:			
Date	Appraiser		Finding			
Condition issues/damages-Wh	at condition issues or da	mages exist? How long	have they	existed? Enclose additiona	al pages if necessary:	
Changes to property—What cha	nges have been made? V	When? Enclose additiona	al pages if	necessary:		
Other (for example, market data) Specify and provide a short explanation	on or documentation:					
35 Why do you think the value of y Provide enough information to s				ace provided; enclose add	ditional pages, if necessary.	
	penalties for false swear e, correct, and complete		at I have e	examined this document, a	and to the best of my	
36 Signature and name of petitioner or Sign name	petitioner's representative (a	attach authorization if nece Print or type name	essary)		37 Date	
					1	

Please return this petition with five copies to:

Clackamas County Clerks Office Board of Property Tax Appeals 1710 Red Soils Court, Suite 100 Oregon City, OR 97045

For county contact information, visit: www.oregon.gov/dor/programs/property/pages/appeals-contacts.aspx

When and where to file your petition

File your petition in the office of the county clerk. No other county office can accept petitions. Your petition must be postmarked or delivered by December 31 to the county clerk's office in the county where the property is located. If December 31 falls on a weekend or holiday, the filing deadline moves to the next business day. Mail or deliver your petition to the address shown in the box.

Form OR-B-RPP Instructions

Page 1 of 2, 150-310-063-1 (Rev. 12-02-20)

Oregon Board of Property Tax Appeals Real Property Petition

General information

Use this form to request a reduction of the value of your land, buildings, manufactured structures, and industrial machinery and equipment. The value of your business personal property or floating property should be appealed on the personal property petition form.

For the current tax year, your petition must be postmarked or delivered by December 31. If December 31 falls on a weekend or holiday, the filing date moves to the next business day. See the back of this form for filing instructions.

We provide the following information to help you understand how your property is assessed.

- ➤ Real market value (RMV) is the value the assessor has estimated your property would sell for on the open market as of the assessment date. The assessment date for most property is January 1 preceding the mailing of the tax statements in October.
- ➤ Maximum assessed value (MAV) is the greater of 103 percent of the prior year's assessed value or 100 percent of the prior year's MAV. MAV may be increased above 3 percent of the prior year's assessed value if certain changes, defined as exceptions, are made to your property. MAV doesn't appear on most tax statements.
- ➤ Exception means a change to property, not including general ongoing maintenance and repair or minor construction. Changes that could affect MAV include new construction or additions, major remodeling or reconstruction, rezoning with use consistent with the change in zoning, a partition or subdivision, or a disqualification from special assessment or exemption. Minor construction is defined as additions of real property improvements with a RMV that doesn't exceed \$10,000 in one assessment year or \$25,000 over a period of five assessment years. Exception value doesn't appear on your tax statement.
- ➤ **Assessed value (AV)** is the value used to calculate your tax. It is the lesser of RMV or MAV.
- ➤ Specially assessed value (SAV) is a value established by statute. The legislature has established several programs that create value levels below market value for certain types of property. Examples of types of property that may qualify for special assessment are farmland, historic property, government-restricted low income multiunit housing, and property that qualifies as "open space."

Contact your county assessor for more information about how your property value was determined.

Appeal rights

Generally. Except for centrally assessed property and industrial property appraised by the Department of Revenue, you may appeal the current real market, maximum assessed, specially assessed, or assessed value of your taxable real property to the board of property tax appeals (BOPTA). However, the authority of BOPTA to reduce your property's MAV and AV is **limited to the calculation allowed by law**, and an appeal may not result in a reduction of tax.

Industrial property. If you're appealing **principal or secondary industrial** property appraised by the Department of Revenue, you must file a complaint with the Magistrate Division of the Tax Court. The deadline for filing your appeal with the Tax Court is the same as the deadline for filing with BOPTA. You may contact the Tax Court at 503-986-5650.

Centrally assessed property. The value of utilities and other centrally assessed property must be appealed to the Department of Revenue on or before June 15 of the assessment year on forms that we provide.

MAV. MAV is based on the prior year's MAV and AV. The 3 percent increase from the prior year's AV can't be reduced by BOPTA. If the AV increased by more than 3 percent due to an exception, the board may reduce the value of the exception.

AV. AV is established by a simple comparison between RMV and MAV and is equal to whichever one is less. It can only change as the result of changes to RMV or MAV. If BOPTA reduces RMV but it remains higher than MAV, AV won't change.

Instructions for filing a petition

Read all instructions carefully before completing this form. If your petition isn't complete, it will be returned. If your petition isn't corrected by the date indicated on the "Defective Petition Notice" mailed to you, it will be dismissed.

Petitioner (lines 1–10)

The owner, an owner, or any person or business that holds an interest in the property that obligates the person or business to pay the property taxes is legally authorized to appeal to BOPTA. If the person or business isn't the owner or doesn't receive the tax statement, **proof of an obligation** to pay the taxes must be submitted with the petition. Contracts and lease agreements are examples of documents that may allow a party other than the owner to appeal.

If property is owned by a business, the petition (or authorization to represent, if applicable) must be signed by a person who can legally bind the company. For most corporations, this is usually a corporate officer. **Employees regularly**

employed in tax matters for a corporation or other business may also sign the petition.

If you need help in determining who can sign the petition for your business or other organization, contact the county clerk's office in your county.

Authorized representative (lines 11–22)

The law allows only certain people to sign the petition and appear at the hearing to represent the petitioner.

People who need a signed authorization from the petitioner in order to sign the petition include:

- A relative of the owner(s). Relative is defined as: spouse, (step)son, (step)daughter, (step)brother, (step)sister, (step) father, (step)mother, grandchild, grandparent, nephew, niece, son- or daughter-in-law, brother- or sister-in-law, father- or mother-in-law.
- A real estate broker licensed under Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 696.022.
- A real estate appraiser certified or licensed under ORS 674.310, or registered under 308.010.
- A person duly qualified to practice public accountancy in Oregon. This includes Oregon licensed certified public accountants (CPAs) or public accountants (PAs), or PAs from another state who have proof of substantial equivalency authorization from Oregon.
- A lessee, if the lessee isn't obligated to pay the taxes. Lessees obligated to pay the taxes aren't required to provide authorization from the owner, but must provide proof of the obligation.

An attorney-in-fact under a general power of attorney executed by the owner of the property can also sign the petition and appear at the hearing to represent the petitioner. The attorney-in-fact must provide a copy of the general power of attorney with the petition.

People who don't need a signed authorization include:

- An attorney-at-law. The attorney's Oregon state bar number must be included on the petition.
- Legal guardian or conservator of the owner(s) with court appointment.
- Trustee in bankruptcy proceedings with court appointment.

Attendance at hearing (line 23)

Checking "yes" means you or your representative will attend the hearing. Checking "no" means that neither you nor your representative will attend the hearing. If you don't attend the hearing, BOPTA will make a decision about the value of your property based on the written evidence you submit.

If you check "yes" or don't check any box in this section, BOPTA will schedule a hearing and notify you of the time and place to appear. Hearings will be scheduled between the first Monday in February and April 15. Some counties have established time limits for you and the assessor to present evidence. The BOPTA clerk can advise you of your county's procedure.

Property information (lines 24–27)

You must include the assessor's account number or a copy of your tax statement with your petition.

RMV (lines 28-31)

Enter the RMV you are appealing in the left-hand column or attach a copy of your tax statement. Enter the RMV you're requesting for your property in the right hand column. This number should represent what you think your property was worth on the open market as of January 1 of the current year. You may appeal either the total value of your property or the value of any or all components (land, buildings, machinery and equipment, or manufactured structures).

SAV (line 32)

If your property is specially assessed, complete this section to appeal the specially assessed portion of your property. You may need to talk to your county assessor to determine which value on your tax statement is the SAV.

Enter the total SAV you're appealing in the left-hand column. Enter the total SAV you're requesting for your property in the right-hand column. Many special assessments result from an application filed with the county assessor and often only a portion of the property is under special assessment. Most property is not specially assessed. BOPTA cannot grant special assessments or restore a property's previous qualification for special assessment.

AV (line 33)

Enter AV from your tax statement or the assessor's records. A new AV may result from your appeal based on the RMV, SAV, or MAV determined by BOPTA.

Note: Even if BOPTA reduces RMV of your property, your tax bill may not change unless RMV is reduced below AV.

Evidence of property value (lines 34–35)

Explain the basis of your appeal and provide evidence that the value the assessor has placed on your property is incorrect. The Department of Revenue information circular, *How to Appeal Your Property Value*, contains information about the type of evidence needed for a successful appeal. Comparing the value on the tax roll of your house to the value on the tax roll of your neighbor's house or comparing the taxes you pay to the taxes your neighbor pays generally isn't considered satisfactory evidence.

If you have recently built or installed a new home or other structure, remodeled, or added to an already existing structure, you should address the cost of this portion of your property on line 34, "Changes to property."

All evidence submitted, including pictures and appraisals, will be kept. It won't be returned to you.

Declaration and signature (lines 36-37)

Sign and date the petition form. The petition will be considered defective if not signed.

HOW TO APPEAL A DECISION OF THE BOARD OF PROPERTY TAX APPEALS

You may appeal most decisions made by your local board of property tax appeals (BOPTA) by filing a complaint with the Magistrate Division of the Oregon Tax Court. The Magistrate Division cannot accept appeals concerning late filing penalties [ORS 308.295(5) and 308.296(6)].

The Magistrate Division complaint form, along with instructions, is available on the Tax Court's website www.courts.oregon.gov/tax. (See Magistrate Division Property Tax Complaint & Instructions.)

There is a fee for filing a complaint with the Magistrate Division. The fee is subject to modification by the Oregon Legislature and should be verified with the Tax Court before filing. As of January 1, 2022 the filing fee is \$50.

A written Magistrate Decision may be appealed to the Regular Division of the Oregon Tax Court.

Note: You only have 30 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery of the BOPTA order to file your complaint with the Magistrate Division. A complaint is considered "filed" on the date that it is deposited with USPS or private express carrier (ORS 305.418). It is good practice to keep receipts or other evidence of the date of mailing or dispatch.

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