

CHAPTER 11  
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
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## CHAPTER 11

### EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

#### **11.01 PURPOSE**

The declared purposes of this Chapter are to provide for the direction of emergency organization and the coordination of emergency functions of this County with all other public agencies, corporations, organizations, and affected private persons; and the preparation and implementation of plans for the protection of persons and property within this County in the event of an emergency. The Emergency Management Department shall carry out the purposes set forth in the Oconto County Code of Ordinances, Wisconsin and Federal rules, regulations, laws and guidelines and ensure compliance with the same.

#### **11.02 DEFINITIONS**

The following terms as used in this Chapter shall, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, have the following meanings:

- (a) **Board.** The Oconto County Board of Supervisors.
- (b) **Day to Day Emergencies.** Situations which may arise in this county on a daily basis, of a nature not serious enough to be classified as an emergency as defined in 11.02(d), of this section. Local agencies or municipalities handle these daily occurrences with their resources or limited assistance of County Emergency Management.
- (c) **Emergency Management Director.** The Emergency Management Coordinator who shall, in addition to fulfilling departmental responsibilities, provide direction and control of Emergency Management during times of emergency or disaster.
- (d) **Emergency.** The actual or threatened existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons or property within this county caused by such conditions as or is likely to be, beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment and facilities of this county, requiring the combined forces of other political subdivisions to combat. Such conditions include but are not limited to, air pollution, civil disturbance, sudden and severe drought, earthquake, terrorism, energy shortage, epidemic, fire, flood, hazardous material release, plant or animal infestation or disease, riot, storm, war or imminent threat of war. Conditions resulting from a labor controversy are not emergency conditions.
- (e) **State of Absence.** The condition of being incapacitated due to illness or disability, refusing to serve, being physically located fifty (50) miles or more beyond the geographic boundaries of Oconto County, or being unable to be reached by telephone or other telecommunications after two (2) attempts.

#### **11.03 LINES OF SUCCESSION FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DECLARATION DECISIONS**

- (a) **Board Chair.** The Chair is empowered to declare an emergency, as emergency is defined in this chapter.
- (b) **Alternates.** In the state of absence of the Chair alternates in the line of succession are:
  - (1) Board of Supervisors - Vice Chair
  - (2) Emergency Management Committee Vice Chair
  - (3) Law Enforcement Committee – Chair
  - (4) Law Enforcement Vice-Chair
  - (5) Board Supervisor in ascending order of District number

## **11.04 EMERGENCY DECLARATIONS AND EMERGENCY POWERS**

- (a) In the event of a local emergency, the Board Chair may, in person, by telephone or electronically, declare that a state of emergency exists in Oconto County for the purpose of enabling emergency management staff to take all necessary, immediate action to protect the health, safety and welfare of persons and property within Oconto County.
- (b) As soon as is practicable, the Chair or his designee, shall execute an Emergency Declaration in order to enable all County and other resources available to Oconto County to alleviate the dangerous conditions created by the existing emergency.
- (c) In the absence of the Chair, the line of succession set forth in §11.03 of this ordinance shall apply for the purposes of declaring a state of emergency in Oconto County.
- (d) A resolution to ratify the declaration of emergency shall be presented to the Board of Supervisors at its next meeting following the declaration of emergency.
- (e) Emergency Powers of the Emergency Management Director. In the event of a declaration of local emergency, the proclamation of a state of emergency by the Governor, or the existence of a state of war, the Emergency Management Director shall, after consultation and coordination with the Chair, or his or her successor, take all steps necessary to implement the County's Emergency Response Plan (ERP).
- (f) Emergency Powers of the Board Chair and Vice-Chair. In the event of a declaration of local emergency, the proclamation of a state of emergency by the Governor, or the existence of a state of war, the County Board Chair or his or her successor, shall, after consultation and coordination with the Emergency Management Director, direct that all steps necessary to implement the County's Emergency Response Plan (ERP) be implemented.

## **11.05 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

The Emergency Management Committee is designated as the Emergency Management Committee pursuant to §323.14(1)(a), Stats. The Law Enforcement and Emergency Management Committee shall be an advisory and planning group and shall advise the County Emergency Management Director and the County Board on all matters pertaining to emergency management.

## **11.06 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR**

Duties and responsibilities of the Emergency Management Director shall be:

- (a) Develop and promulgate emergency management plans for the County, including planning for joint action with municipalities consistent with the State plan of emergency management.
- (b) Coordinate and assist in the development of non-joint action municipal emergency management plans within the County and integrate such plans with the County plans.
- (c) Direct the County and joint action municipality emergency management programs.
- (d) Direct countywide emergency management training and exercises.
- (e) Advise the Wisconsin Emergency Management (WEM) Administrator of all emergency management planning for the County and render such reports as may be required by the WEM Administrator.
- (f) In case of a state of emergency proclaimed by the Governor, direct the County and joint action municipalities' emergency management activities and coordinate the non-joint action municipal

emergency management activities within the County, subject to the coordinating authority of the WEM Administrator.

- (g) Perform such other duties relating to emergency management as may be required by the County Board.
- (h) Act as the head of Emergency Management Services as provided for under Chapter 323 of the Wisconsin Statutes and work in consultation with the Local Emergency Planning Committee as the Emergency Information Coordinator and Community Emergency Coordinator until such time as that Committee has revoked those responsibilities.

#### **11.07 JOINT ACTION**

- (a) Joint Action Meetings. Whenever it is deemed necessary by the County Emergency Management Committee and the emergency management governing body of another municipality participating in joint action, there shall be a joint meeting of the committees to decide such matters as may arise.
- (b) Joint Action Ordinance. Municipalities entering into a joint action agreement with the County shall provide for utilization of existing services of municipal government by enactment of an ordinance similar to this ordinance.
- (c) Municipal Duties. Subject to the terms of any joint action agreement, the County Emergency Management Director shall act as the director for a municipality participating and shall:
  - (1) Direct the municipal emergency management organization. Develop promulgate and integrate into the County plan, the emergency management plans for the operating services of the municipality.
  - (2) Direct participation of the municipality in such emergency management training programs and exercises as may be required on the County level by the WEM Administrator.
  - (3) Direct the municipal emergency management training programs and exercises.
  - (4) Perform all administrative duties necessary for the rendering of reports and procurement of matching federal funds for each municipality requesting federal matching funds.
  - (5) In case of a state of emergency proclaimed by the Governor, direct the activities of the municipal emergency management organization.
  - (6) Perform such other duties relating to emergency management as may be required by the municipal governing body.
- (d) Municipal Deputy Emergency Management Director.
  - (1) Each municipality enacting a joint action agreement with the County shall appoint a Deputy Emergency Management Director.
  - (2) The municipal Deputy Emergency Management Director will operate under the administrative direction of the County Emergency Management Director.
  - (3) Remuneration, if any, for the municipal Deputy Management Director will be determined and paid by the governing body of that municipality.

## **11.08 OCONTO COUNTY EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN (ERP)**

Under the direction of the Board of Supervisors, the Emergency Management Director shall be responsible for ensuring the development and maintenance of the Oconto County Emergency Response Plan, which shall provide for the effective mobilization of all of the available resources of the county, both public and private, to meet any condition constituting a local emergency, state of emergency, or state of war and shall provide for the organization, powers and duties, and staff of the emergency organization.

- (a) Compliance. The plan shall comply with applicable local, state and federal planning criteria. The plan shall contain an analysis of the risks faced by the County, assign functional responsibilities to County agencies/departments and personnel, and assign lines of succession for the members of the emergency organization.
- (b) Functional assignments. The plan shall include the functions assigned to county agencies or departments and it shall be the responsibility of each agency director/department head to develop and maintain an agency/department plan to fulfill the roles and responsibilities in the County Emergency Response Plan and appoint coordinators who shall report to the Emergency Operations Center and carry out assigned duties as appropriate.
- (c) Adoption. The Emergency Response Plan shall not be effective until adopted by the Board of Supervisors. Nothing in this section shall be construed so as to limit the Emergency Management Director from immediately commencing organizational and planning programs as required by the County Emergency Response Plan adopted by the County Board.

## **11.09 OTHER EMERGENCIES AND DISASTERS**

- (a) Joint Action Municipalities. In the event of an emergency or disaster, the County Emergency Management Director will activate and direct the emergency management services at the appropriate level of government affected by the emergency.
- (b) Non-joint Action Municipalities. In the event of an emergency or disaster, the County Emergency Management Director will coordinate with the municipalities affected and render such assistance as is requested and available from county resources.