

COUNTY CODE

CHAPTER 4 - EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

4.01 POLICY AND PURPOSE. To prepare Taylor County to promptly and adequately respond to and cope with various emergencies resulting from enemy action and natural or man-made disasters. An organization for emergency management is created to discharge the duties and fulfill the responsibilities mandated under the provisions of Chapter 323, Wisconsin State Statutes.

History: Amended, Ordinance 568, 5/27/2010

4.02 DEFINITIONS. In this chapter, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

(1) Civil defense means all measures undertaken by or on behalf of the County to prepare for and minimize the effect of enemy action upon the civilian population.

(2) Director means the County Emergency Management Director.

(3) Emergency interim successor means a person designated under this chapter, if the officer is unavailable, to exercise the powers and discharge the duties of an office until a successor is appointed or elected and qualified as provided by law or until the lawful incumbent is able to resume the exercise of the powers and discharge the duties of the office.

(4) Emergency management includes “civil defense” and means all measures undertaken by or on behalf of the county

(a) To prepare for and minimize the effect of enemy action and natural or man-made disaster upon the civilian population.

(b) To effectuate emergency repairs to, or the emergency restoration of, vital public utilities and facilities destroyed or damaged by such action or disaster.

(5) Enemy action means action by public enemies or any individual or group hostile to the United States of America that threatens the security of this country, or any political subdivision.

(6) Incident command system means a functional management system established to control, direct, and manage the roles, responsibilities, and operations of all the agencies involved in a multi-jurisdictional or multi-agency emergency response.

(7) Natural or man-made disaster includes all incidents or disasters adversely affecting the County, natural or man-made, excluding any described under “enemy action”.

(8) Unavailable means that during a state of emergency resulting from enemy action, or other disaster, either a vacancy in office exists and there is no deputy authorized to exercise all of the powers and discharge the duties of the office, or that the lawful incumbent of the office and his or her duly authorized deputy are absent or unable to exercise the powers and discharge the duties of the office.

4.03 ORGANIZATION.

(1) Committee Structure.

(a) Under the provisions of Section 323.14, Wisconsin State Statutes, the Law Enforcement and Emergency Services Committee is designated the Emergency Management Committee. The committee shall be an advisory and planning group and shall advise the County Emergency Management Director and the County Board of Supervisors on all matters pertaining to emergency management. It shall meet upon the call of the chairman.

History: Amended, Ordinance 568, 5/27/2010

(b) The Local Emergency Planning Committee created under the provisions of the federal Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA), the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA Title III), and Section 59.54(8)(a), Wisconsin State Statutes, shall be responsible for planning for the handling of hazardous material incidents in the County and shall establish policy governing, and exercise operational control over, the Taylor County Hazardous Material Response Team. Members of this committee shall be selected and appointed under the provisions of Chapter 2.08(18), Taylor County Code. The committee normally is to meet quarterly, or at the call of the Chairman, as needed.

(2) Emergency Management Director. Under the provisions of Section 323.14, Wisconsin State Statutes, there is hereby created the office of Taylor County Emergency Management Director. The Taylor County Sheriff is delegated supervisory responsibility over emergency management functions within the County. The Sheriff shall appoint the Emergency Management Director, which appointment shall be confirmed by the County Board of Supervisors. The Director shall serve at the pleasure of the Sheriff, and shall also be subject to the control and under the direction of the Law Enforcement and Emergency Services Committee. He/she shall be a regular full-time employee of the Sheriff's Department with rights, privileges and benefits as provided for in Chapter 3, Taylor County Code. In addition to the powers and duties specified in Section 323.15, Wisconsin State Statutes, the Director shall:

History: Amended, Ordinance 568, 5/27/2010

(a) Implement and coordinate the Taylor County Emergency Operations Plan.

History: Amended, Ordinance 568, 5/27/2010

(b) Exercise the powers and perform duties necessary to comply with the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA).

(c) Develop, promulgate and keep current such Taylor County emergency plans as may be necessary to cope with such disasters, catastrophes or calamities that may occur.

(d) Coordinate activities of and act as liaison between the Taylor County Hazardous Material Incident Response (Hazmat) Team and the Local Emergency Planning Committee.

(e) Direct and coordinate the training programs and exercises necessary to test emergency operating and emergency response plans of county and municipalities.

(f) Discharge all administrative duties necessary for the rendering of reports to state and federal agencies to acquire any available federal or state grants.

(g) In case of a state of emergency proclaimed by the Governor or County Board Chairman, activate the Emergency Operations Center and institute the Incident Command System.

(h) Under authority contained herein, implement the Emergency Response Plan, as needed.

(i) Perform such other duties relating to emergency management as may be delegated by the Sheriff, Law Enforcement and Emergency Services Committee (Emergency Management Committee) or County Board of Supervisors.

(3) Hazardous Material Incident Response Team.

(a) A Taylor County Class B Hazardous Material Incident Response Team is organized under and authorized by resolution adopted by the County Board of Supervisors. The team shall receive policy guidance and be under the operation control of the Local Emergency Planning Committee through, and in coordination with, the Emergency Management Director. A Team Chief, who is elected by the members of the team, provides immediate supervision of the team. The team shall be responsible for responding to all hazardous material incidents occurring in Taylor County that are within its capabilities to control or mitigate.

(b) The team may be demobilized and deactivated by appropriate action of the County Board of Supervisors at any time it is determined that its continuance is no longer advantageous to the County.

4.04 CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS.

(1) Declaration of Emergency.

(a) The County Board Chairman, as chief elected official of the County, is hereby authorized to proclaim a state of emergency for the County, or any portion thereof, if he or she determines that an emergency resulting from enemy action or natural or man-made disaster exists.

(b) In the event of emergency and a quorum of the County Board of Supervisors cannot meet with promptness, the County Board Chairman, County Board Vice Chairman, Sheriff, or Emergency Management Director, in this order, shall be authorized to

exercise all the powers of the County Board of Supervisors which appear necessary as the result of an emergency or disaster, including the issuance of a mandatory evacuation order.

(c) The Emergency Management Director, or his designee, is delegated the authority to implement the County Emergency Response Plan (ERP), as needed.

(d) The Incident Command System shall be instituted and utilized when responding to an emergency demanding multi-jurisdictional cooperation.

(2) Emergency Operations Center.

(a) Under the provisions of Section 323.52, Wisconsin State Statutes, whenever during a state of emergency it becomes imprudent, inexpedient or impossible to conduct the emergency management functions of the County from the normal Emergency Management Director's office the emergency temporary location for conducting emergency response and recovery operations shall be in the Emergency Operations Center, Room G211, Taylor County Courthouse, 224 South Second Street, Medford, WI.

History: Amended, Ordinance 568, 5/27/2010

(b) In the event this location is unusable or inoperable, emergency operations will be relocated to the Alternate EOC located in the ground floor meeting room of the Medford Area Fire Department, 844 West Broadway, Medford, WI.

(3) Emergency Temporary Location of County Government.

(a) Under the provisions of Section 323.52, Wisconsin State Statutes, whenever during a state of emergency it becomes necessary to evacuate regular or usual locations from which normal affairs of county government are conducted, other than the Office of Emergency Management, such offices and departments that are so affected, shall relocate to the emergency temporary locations specified in the Taylor County Continuity of Operations Plan.

History: Amended, Ordinance 568, 5/27/2010

(b) Under the provisions of Section 323.52, Wisconsin State Statutes, when conducting public business from emergency temporary locations all officers of the county shall continue to have, possess and exercise, at such locations, all of the executive, legislative, administrative and judicial powers and functions conferred upon such officers under state law.

History: Amended, Ordinance 568, 5/27/2010

(4) Emergency Interim Successors for Officers.

(a) Under the provisions of Section 323.55, Wisconsin State Statutes, authority is hereby granted for all officers of the County to appoint emergency interim successors to the office to which they have been elected or appointed. Upon declaration of emergency and a duly elected or appointed officer is unavailable, his emergency interim

successor highest in rank of order of succession who is not unavailable shall, except for the power and duty to appoint emergency interim successors, exercise the powers and discharge the duties of such officer. An emergency interim successor shall exercise these powers and discharge these duties only until such time as the lawful incumbent or any duly authorized deputy or an emergency interim successor higher in rank in order of succession exercises, or resumes the exercise of, the powers and discharge of the duties of the office; or until, where an actual vacancy exists, a successor is appointed to fill such vacancy or is elected or appointed and qualified as provided by law.

History: Amended, Ordinance 568, 5/27/2010

(b) All such emergency interim successor appointments shall be made by elected and appointed officers within thirty (30) days of taking office and shall be in accordance with the provisions of Section 323.55, Wisconsin State Statutes.

History: Amended, Ordinance 568, 5/27/2010

(c) The names of emergency interim successors and the offices to which they have been appointed shall be properly enumerated and kept current in the Taylor County Continuity of Operations Plan by the Human Resources Director or his/her designee.

4.05 TAYLOR COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN. The Law Enforcement and Emergency Services Committee is authorized to amend, as may become necessary, the Taylor County Emergency Operations Plan.

History: Amended, Ordinance 568, 5/27/2010

THE COMPLETE CHAPTER 4 WAS REPEALED AND RECREATED ON 4/18/2006 PER ORDINANCE 533.