

Yolo County Disaster Council

Background Disaster Council

The California Emergency Services Act §8610 states that counties, cities and counties, and cities may create disaster councils by ordinance, and a disaster council shall develop plans for meeting any condition constituting a local emergency.

In 1991, because of the Oakland Hills Fire, Senator Petris wrote Senate Bill 1871 creating the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) based on FIRESCOPE and the Incident Command System (ICS). SEMS requires each County in California to organize an Operational Area for enhancing large-scale emergency management concepts and plans.

Yolo County Ordinance Article 31. Disaster Service Council Sec. 2-2.3101. The declared purposes of this article are to provide for the preparation and carrying out of plans for the protection of persons and property within this County in the event of an emergency; the direction of the emergency organization; and the coordination of the emergency functions of this County with all other public agencies, corporations, organizations, and affected private persons. (Ord. 1112, eff. December 20, 1990)

Purpose and Responsibilities

The council provides guidance and recommends priorities for the Yolo County Office of Emergency Services (OES). Additionally, the Council would advise OES on major policy resource and government relations issues during a major emergency or disaster. Reviews and provides feedback for plans created by OES.

The council also reviews and recommends the adoption of such ordinances, resolutions, rules, and regulations as necessary to implement the County Emergency Plan or other mutual aid agreement entered according to such plan.

Report biannually or annually to the Board of Supervisors by the Office of Emergency Services.

Update scope of work and membership to enable greater community and stakeholder engagement in developing disaster preparedness planning, training, and education.

Disaster council membership (Sec. 2-2.3103) consists of the following:

- The Chairperson of the Board of Supervisors of the County, who shall be the chairperson of the Council.
- The Director of Emergency Services, who shall be the vice chairperson of the Council.
- Such chiefs of emergency services as are provided for in a current emergency plan of this county, adopted pursuant to this article.
- Such representatives of civic, business, labor, veterans, professional, or other organizations having an official emergency responsibility, as may be appointed by the Board of Supervisors. (Ord. 1112, eff. December 20, 1990)
- Emergency Services (OES) Staff

Council Membership Suggested Updates

Required Membership for State Accreditation as a Disaster Service Council:

- County CAO or their designee, shall be the chairman
- 1 County Board of Supervisors Chair or their designee, vice chairman
- 1 Representative from each of the cities, appointed by city councils
- 1 Fire Chiefs' Association representative
- 1 Police Chiefs' Association representative

- 1 Office of Education representative
- Such representatives of civic, business, labor, veterans, professional, or other organizations having an official emergency responsibility, as may be appointed by the director with the advice and consent of the governing body.
- Such representatives of other organizations, either civic, business, labor, veterans, professionals or other organizations having an official group or organization having disaster responsibility. Director/agency heads of county departments having disaster responsibility or their designees.

Additional Membership

- Emergency Services Chief, or their designee
- 1 County Health and Human Services representative
- 1 County Public Works representative
- 1 Emergency Medical Care Committee representative or emergency medical services administrator
- 1 representative of the American Red Cross
- 1 Yolo Transit representative
- 1 Access and Functional Needs representative
- 1 Special Districts representative
- 1 Consumer representative is appointed from each supervisory district
- 1 At Large

Disaster Council Meetings

The Yolo County Council meets twice yearly or quarterly and may meet more often if necessary, as determined by the Chair or when Council members request.