

Chapter 1

EMERGENCY SERVICES

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Sec. 4-1.01. Purposes.

The declared purposes of this Chapter are to provide for the preparation and implementation of plans for the protection of persons and property under County jurisdiction in the event of an emergency; the direction of the emergency organization; and the coordination of the emergency functions of County government with all other public agencies, corporations, organizations, and affected private persons. (§ 1, Ord. 226, as amended by § 1, Ord. 1359, eff. May 31, 2007)

Sec. 4-1.02. Definitions.

The general definitions contained in the California Emergency Services Act (Government Code Section 8610) shall apply to this chapter. The following additional definitions shall govern the interpretation of this chapter unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

“County agency” shall mean any department, division, office, section, branch, or independent establishment under the control of the Board of Supervisors, or the executive branch of County government.

“Director” shall mean the County Administrator, who serves as Director of Emergency Services; who is tasked with the overall management, coordination, and control of emergency preparedness and response functions for the County of Yolo. The Director shall serve in the capacity of Operational Area Director, as defined by the State Emergency Plan; to include County government, all cities, special districts and political subdivisions within the physical parameters encompassing Yolo County.

“Emergency management” shall mean the development of a comprehensive process involving the mitigation of, preparation for, response to, and recovery from potential natural, technological and human conflict hazards. The process shall include associated emergency planning interagency coordination, public information and education, training, resource management, and incident management efforts.

“Emergency plans” shall mean the official and approved documents which describe the principles and methods to be applied in carrying out emergency operations or rendering mutual aid during emergencies. These plans shall include, but not be limited to such elements as structure and function of the emergency management organization, continuity of government, the emergency services of governmental agencies, mobilization of resources, mutual aid, public information, and mitigation and recovery procedures.

“Local emergency” shall mean the actual or threatened existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within this County caused by such conditions as air pollution, fire, flood, storm, epidemic, riot, earthquake, or other conditions, including conditions resulting from war or imminent threat of war, but other than conditions resulting from a labor controversy, which conditions are or are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of this County, requiring the assistance of other political subdivisions to combat.

“Operational area” means an intermediate level of the state emergency services organization, consisting of the County of Yolo and all political subdivisions within the county area.

“Yolo County Emergency Services Council” shall be the local disaster council as defined in the California Emergency Services Act, Government Code Section 8610.

(§ 2, Ord. 226, as amended by § 1, Ord. 1359, eff. May 31, 2007)

Sec. 4-1.03. Emergency Services Council.

A. Council Membership

The Yolo County Emergency Services Council is hereby created, and shall consist of the following representative membership:

1. County Administrator (Director of Emergency Services), or designee, who shall be Chair;
2. Emergency Services Manager (Deputy Director of Emergency Services), or designee, who shall be Vice Chair;
3. County Sheriff-Coroner, or designee;
4. County Health Officer, or designee;
5. County Director of Planning and Public Works, or designee;
6. County Director of Employment and Social Services, or designee;
7. The designated Fire and Rescue Operations Coordinator, or designee;
8. A representative of the American Red Cross within Yolo County ;
9. Such additional representation from any other community service, volunteer, veterans, educational, business, industry, or assistance organization deemed appropriate by the Director. Such representative membership shall be determined on an annual basis by the Director.

B. Emergency Services Council powers and duties

1. It shall be the duty of the Yolo County Emergency Services Council, and it is hereby empowered, to consider and recommend for adoption by the Board of Supervisors, emergency and mutual aid plans and agreements and such ordinances and resolutions and rules and regulations as are necessary to implement such plans and agreements.

2. The Emergency Services Council shall meet upon call of the Director or, in his or her absence from the County or inability to call such a meeting, upon call of the Deputy Director of Emergency Services. The Emergency Services Council shall meet not less frequently than annually and shall prescribe its own rules of procedure. (§ 3, Ord. 226, as amended by § 1, Ord. 306, §§ 1 and 2, Ord. 636, eff. August 24, 1970, § 2, Ord. 671, eff. August 16, 1972, § 2, Ord. 673, eff. September 20, 1972, and § 3, Ord. 894, eff. November 6, 1980, as amended by § 1, Ord. 1359, eff. May 31, 2007)

Sec. 4-1.04. Director of Emergency Services.

A. Director of Emergency Services

There is hereby created the office of Director of Emergency Services. The County Administrator shall be the Director of Emergency Services.

B. Powers and Duties of the Director of Emergency Services

The Director is hereby empowered to:

1. Request the Board of Supervisors to proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a “local emergency” if the Board of Supervisors is in session, or to issue such proclamation if the Board of Supervisors is not in session. Whenever a local emergency is proclaimed by the Director, the Board of Supervisors shall take action to ratify the proclamation within seven days thereafter or the proclamation shall have no further force or effect;

2. Request the Governor, or recommend that the Chair of the Board of Supervisors request the Governor to proclaim a “State of Emergency ” when, in the opinion of the Director, the locally available resources are inadequate to cope with the emergency. Whenever the Director makes such a request directly, it shall be confirmed by the Board of Supervisors at the earliest practicable time;

3. Control and direct the effort of the emergency organization of this County for the accomplishment of the purposes of this Chapter;

4. Direct cooperation between and coordination of services and staff of the emergency organization of this County; and resolve questions of authority; and responsibility that may arise between them;

5. Represent this County in all dealings with public or private agencies on matters pertaining to emergencies as defined herein. Such day to day dealings may be delegated as appropriate.

6. In the event of the proclamation of a “local emergency” as herein provided, the proclamation of a “State of Emergency” by the Governor or the Director of the State Office of Emergency Services, or the existence of a “State of War Emergency ,” the Director is hereby empowered:

a. To make and issue rules and regulations on matters reasonably related to the protection of life and property as affected by such emergency; provided, however, such rules and regulations must be confirmed at the earliest possible practicable time by the Board of Supervisors;

b. To obtain vital supplies, equipment, and such other properties found lacking and needed for the protection of life and property and to bind the County for the fair value thereof and, if required immediately, to commandeer the same for public use.

c. To require emergency services of any County officer or employee and, in the event of the proclamation of a “Local Emergency” of “State of Emergency” in the County or the existence of a “State of War Emergency,” to command the aid of as many citizens of this County as deemed

necessary in the execution of emergency duties; such persons shall be entitled to all privileges, benefits, and immunities as are provided by State law for registered Disaster Service Workers;

d. To appoint additional emergency management staff as needed, in addition to those established by the County Emergency Operations Plan, and to delegate to those members of the emergency management organization such duties and responsibilities as the Director may deem necessary;

e. To requisition necessary personnel, facilities or assets of any County department or agency; and

f. To execute all ordinary powers as Administrative Officer; all of the special powers conferred upon that position by this Chapter or by resolution or emergency plan pursuant hereto adopted by the Board of Supervisors; all powers conferred upon him or her by any statute; by any agreement approved by the Board of Supervisors; and by any other lawful authority.

7. The Director of Emergency Services shall designate the order of succession to that office, to take effect in the event the Director is unavailable to attend meetings or otherwise perform the duties of that office during an emergency. (§ 4, Ord. 226, as amended by § 3, Ord. 671, eff. August 16, 1972, § 3, Ord. 673, eff. September 20, 1972, and § 4, Ord. 894, eff. November 6, 1980, as amended by § 1, Ord. 1359, eff. May 31, 2007)

Sec. 4-1.05. Deputy Director of Emergency Services.

A. Deputy Director of Emergency Services

There is hereby created the position of Deputy Director of Emergency Services. This position shall report to the County Administrator/Director of Emergency Services. The Emergency Services Manager shall serve in the capacity of Deputy Director of Emergency Services.

B. Powers and Duties of the Deputy Director of Emergency Services

The Deputy Director, acting on behalf of and under the supervision of the Director, is hereby responsible for and empowered to:

1. Manage the day-to-day administrative and operational activities associated with the functioning of the County's emergency management program.

2. Supervise the administration and activities of the established County Office of Emergency Services, including the designation of staff assignments in the Deputy Director's absence.

3. Serve as designated County representative to other government jurisdictions, public agencies, community-based organizations, private enterprises, and individuals relating to all matters associated with emergency management that affects Yolo County .

4. Function as the designated Operational Area Coordinator, for Yolo County , on emergency management matters.

5. Assist the Director during periods of emergency and disaster by managing the Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

6. Supervise the activities of assigned staff, the expenditure of allocated public funds, and the utilization of assigned County resources and assets.

7. Perform other such administrative and operational functions as deemed appropriate, and assume such authorities as granted by the Director. (§ 5, Ord. 226, as amend-ed by § I, Ord. 326, § 4, Ord. 671, eff. August 16, 1972, and § 4, Ord. 673, eff. September 20, 1972 as amended by § 1, Ord. 1359, eff. May 31, 2007)

Sec. 4-1.06. Emergency Management Organization.

The Yolo County Emergency Management Organization shall consist of all officers and employees of this County, together with those volunteer forces enrolled to aid them during an emergency, and all groups, organizations, and persons who may by agreement or operation of law, including persons impressed into service under the provisions of Section IV of this Chapter, and be charged with duties incident to the protection of life and property in this County during such emergency. (§ 6, Ord. 226, as amended by § 5, Ord. 671, eff. August 16, 1972, and § 5, Ord. 673, eff. September 20, 1972, as amended by § 1, Ord. 1359, eff. May 31, 2007)

Sec. 4-1.07. Emergency Operations Plan.

The Director of Emergency Services shall be responsible for the development of the County of Yolo Emergency Operations Plan, which plan shall provide for the effective mobilization of all of the resources of this County, both public and private, to meet any condition constituting a local emergency, state of emergency, or state of war emergency; and shall provide for the organization, powers and duties, services, service chiefs, and staff of the emergency organization. Such plan shall be submitted to the Emergency Services Council for review and comment, and shall take effect upon adoption by resolution of the Board of Supervisors. (§ 8, Ord. 226, as amended by § 1, Ord. 306, § 6, Ord. 671, eff. August 16, 1972, and § 6, Ord. 673, eff. September 20, 1972; as amended by § 1, Ord. 1359, eff. May 31, 2007)

Sec. 4-1.08. Office of Emergency Services.

An Office of Emergency Services is hereby established to coordinate all emergency preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation functions and responsibilities as necessary to carry out the intent of this Chapter. The Office of Emergency Services shall be organized within County government as deemed appropriate by County Administrator.

- A. The Office of Emergency Services shall be headed by the Deputy Director of Emergency Services/Emergency Services Manager, who will possess the responsibility and authority for the day-to-day administrative and operational functioning of the division.
- B. Functions and duties of the County Office of Emergency Services shall include but not be limited to:
 1. Development of an all-hazards County Emergency Operations Plan and supporting documents;
 2. Development of a viable emergency public information and warning program;
 3. Conduct an ongoing analysis of risk hazards within the county and to develop recommendations for mitigation of identified hazards;
 4. Establish and coordinate employee preparedness and emergency training activities for all County personnel, staff and officers;
 5. Maintain current listings of emergency resources, supplies, equipment, and materials necessary to support emergency response and recovery activities within the County;
 6. Conduct ongoing public emergency preparedness and education campaigns and programs to include all areas of the County;
 7. Maintain the designated County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in an acceptable state of readiness;
 8. Establish and maintain liaison with all County departments and agencies; all cities located within the county; the State Office of Emergency Services; appropriate Federal government agencies; and to coordinate effective communications between all agencies regarding emergency matters;

9. Document all County actions and responses during an emergency and to prepare supporting documents detailing such actions;

10. Coordinate and conduct all day to day emergency management functions and activities as deemed appropriate by the Director of Emergency Services; (§ 9, Ord. 226, as amended by § 7, Ord. 671, eff. August 16, 1972, and § 7, Ord. 673, eff. September 20, 1972; as amended by § 1, Ord. 1359, eff. May 31, 2007)

Section 4-1.09. Yolo Operational Area

A. California Emergency Services Act (Title 2, Division 1, Chapter 7 of the Government Code) and the state Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) regulations, define an "operational area" as an intermediate level of the state emergency services organization, consisting of a county and all political subdivisions within the county area, designating the counties as operational areas.

B. The County of Yolo , acting through the emergency organization and emergency services council, shall serve as lead agency of the Yolo Operational Area.

C. In an emergency, the Yolo Operational Area shall serve as a link in the system of communications and coordination between the state's emergency operating centers and any centers established by the county, cities and special districts within Yolo County.

D. The Yolo Operational Area shall coordinate emergency activities between the county, incorporated cities and special districts which have been impacted. Mutual aid requests which cannot be fulfilled at the operational area level will be forwarded to the California OES Region for action. (§ 1, Ord. 1359, eff. May 31, 2007)

Sec. 4-1.10. Expenditures

Any expenditure of county funds made in connection with emergency activities, including mutual aid activities, shall be deemed conclusively to be for the direct protection and benefit of the inhabitants, property, and/or environment of or within the County of Yolo. (§ 1, Ord. 1359, eff. May 31, 2007)

Sec. 4-1.11. Punishment of Violations.

Any person who violates any of the provisions of this chapter or who refuses or willfully neglects to obey any lawful order or regulation promulgated or issued as provided in this chapter, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punishable by a fine of not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or by imprisonment not to exceed six months or by both such fine and imprisonment. (Government Code Section 8655) (§ 1, Ord. 1359, eff. May 31, 2007)

Sec. 4-1.12 Severability.

If any provision of this Chapter or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications, and to this end the provisions of this Chapter are declared to be severable. (§ 1, Ord. 1359, eff. May 31, 2007)