

## Council Communication

Office of the City Manager

**Date:** April 22, 2013

Agenda Item No. 15

Roll Call No. 13-0638 Communication No. 13-203

Submitted by: John F. TeKippe,

Fire Chief

## **AGENDA HEADING:**

Appointing the Mayor as the representative to the Warren County Emergency Management Commission and appointing members of the Des Moines City Council and the Fire Chief as alternate representatives to the Commission to reflect changes in Iowa law.

## **SYNOPSIS:**

Recommend approval of making appointments of the designated representatives and alternates from the City of Des Moines to the Warren County Emergency Management Commission that reflect changes in Iowa law. A recent amendment to Iowa Code Chapter 29C requires that only Commission members who are elected officials may vote on the Commission's budget or budget amendments under either Iowa Code Chapter 24 or 29C. All other Commission business may be conducted by the member representative or designated alternates.

FISCAL IMPACT: NONE

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

The Warren County Emergency Management Commission exists to facilitate and coordinate the efforts of county and community governments in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from unusual and extreme natural and technological events such as floods, tornadoes, blizzards, heat waves, and disease, as well as hazardous materials releases and "homeland security" incidents. The Commission has an all-hazards comprehensive emergency management mission developing contingency plans and procedures, assisting with drills and exercises, coordinating and facilitating the provision of resources and supplemental assistance when events exceed our immediate capabilities, and preparing applications for disaster declarations and emergency relief. This mission is fulfilled through and by the staff of the Warren County Emergency Management Commission and Commission members. The Commission is comprised of representatives from every community, the Warren County Sheriff, and the Warren County Board of Supervisors.

The Commission is funded via a Warren County contribution and reimbursements from responsible parties secondary to hazardous materials responses within Warren County and various local, State, and Federal grant programs. These funding streams are different from those that fund the Polk County Emergency Management Agency which include a per capita cost. Communities pay a per capita cost in Polk County; communities do not pay a per capita cost in Warren County. Members include the Warren County Sheriff, Warren County Board of Supervisors, and the communities of Ackworth, Bevington, Carlisle, Cumming, Des Moines, Hartford, Indianola, Lacona, Martensdale, Milo, New Virginia, Norwalk, Sandyville, Spring Hill, St. Mary's, and West Des Moines.

This action makes appointments of designated representatives and alternates from the City of Des Moines to the Warren County Emergency Management Commission that reflects changes in Iowa law. A recent amendment to Iowa Code Chapter 29C requires that only Commission members who are elected officials may vote on the Commission's budget or budget amendments under either Iowa Code Chapter 24 or 29C. All other Commission business may be conducted by the member representative or designated alternate.

With this action, the Mayor is appointed as the City of Des Moines representative to the Warren County Emergency Management Commission. With this action, members of the Des Moines City Council are appointed as alternate representatives. For any Commission activity relating to section 29C.17, subsection 2, or Chapter 24 of the Iowa Code, voting on budgets or budget amendments, participation shall only be by a Commission member or a designated alternate that is an elected official from the same designated entity. Therefore, attendance and voting on Commission budget or a potential budget amendment is required by one of Des Moines' elected officials. This normally occurs one (1) time per year, but may be anticipated to occur one (1) - two (2) times per year. Under Commission procedures, when conducting the business of the Commission only one member representative may cast their votes on behalf of their jurisdiction.

This action also appoints the Fire Chief as a designated alternate representative. This appointment allows the Fire Chief to continue all other previous responsibilities related to the Commission, including as signatory for Commission By-Laws and service as a member of any Commission committees.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE

**BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE** 

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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