

October 1, 2013

TO: Steve Forrester, et al

FROM: Captain Michael Boyd



SUBJECT: Council Adoption of Prineville Emergency Operations Plan

Background:

The process of resolving major critical events, such as wildland fires, earthquakes and acts of terrorism has become more refined, predictable and successful in the last 30 years. A big part of a community “surviving” a major disaster is pre-planning, prevention and training. A guide for successful disaster preparation is commonly known as an Emergency Operations Plan (EOP).

Until this year, the City of Prineville depended on the Crook County Emergency Operations Plan. The Crook County plan has been revised and refined into a very solid document over the last few years. Unfortunately, the Crook County Plan does not address all the specific needs of a densely populated city.

In 2006, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) initiated a grant program to help communities create or revise Emergency Operations Plans. In September of 2012, the City of Prineville received \$16,000 in grant dollars from DHS and began the process of developing our own EOP. We used the firm of Ecology and Environment, Inc, to tailor a plan for our City. The initial draft was reviewed and revised from November 2012 through February 2013. The plan was adopted in May of 2013 and the final version was received in June of 2013.

Discussion:

One of our fundamental requirements for the City of Prineville EOP was that it would closely follow the Crook County EOP. The City of Prineville EOP is a complementary match to the Crook County EOP and will therefore make dealing with escalating disasters much easier. The City of Prineville EOP does not change our relationship with Crook County Emergency Management. We are still part of a well-established process for dealing with major events. Having our own EOP helps the City respond better at the early stages of a disaster, or to effectively resolve localized disasters, with City resources, to prevent these incidents from escalating.

One requirement of the DHS grant was the formal adoption of the EOP by the City Council. Formal adoption of the EOP also makes meeting FEMA requirements easier, which is critical in light of the overwhelming costs and resource needs associated with a major disaster.

In order for the City to adopt the EOP, the Council will need to approve a resolution. Once the plan is formally adopted we can begin to plan and hold training for City employees and Council Members so that our community is ready to deal with potential major disasters.

Fiscal Impact:

Adoption of the Emergency Operations Plan should not cost any additional monies. Subsequent training should occur mainly at the in-service level.

Conclusion:

Staff requests adoption of the May 2013 City of Prineville Emergency Operations Plan through the resolution process.

RESOLUTION NO. 1224

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE CITY OF PRINEVILLE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

WHEREAS, the City of Prineville (“City”) recognizes that planning and preparing for emergencies in advance can reduce potential harm to people and property within our community from the threat of natural or human-caused events such as earthquake, fire, flood, terrorism, or other hazards; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes the importance of a unified and consistent system to prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters and emergencies;

WHEREAS, an Emergency Operations Plan (“EOP”) provides the framework for emergency response and emergency management in the City during disasters;

WHEREAS, the overall objective and emergency management for the City is to ensure the effective management of response forces and resources in preparing for and responding to situations associated with natural, human-caused and national security emergencies;

WHEREAS, the City’s emergency management program is committed to provide effective life safety measures, while reducing property loss and damage to the environment; and

WHEREAS, even though the City will do its best to prepare and respond to an emergency or disaster, it recognizes that the overall responsibility for emergency preparedness rests with the citizens.

THEREFORE, the City of Prineville Resolves as follows:

1. The Emergency Operations Plan for the City of Prineville is hereby adopted
2. This Resolution will take effect immediately upon passage. The provisions of this Resolution shall be severable, and if any portion is declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be contrary to the Constitutions of the United States or Oregon, the validity of the remainder of this Resolution shall not be affected thereby.

Passed by the City Council this _____ day of October, 2013.

Betty J. Roppe, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lisa Morgan, City Recorder