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NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Britt Ferguson for Nancy Watt - County Executive Officer
Emergency Services
REPORT BY: Patti DeWeese, Staff Services Analyst, 253-4197
SUBJECT: Resolution adopting National Incident Mgmt. System (NIMS)

RECOMMENDATION

County Executive Officer/Director of Emergency Services requests adoption of a resolution adopting the National Incident Management System as the official regulatory guidance for emergency response, preparedness, mitigation, prevention and recovery in Napa County.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

California currently has in place a Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) for use in responding to a variety of disaster situations. The President of the United State, through Homeland Security Directive #5, has directed the Department of Homeland Security to develop and administer a National Incident Management System (NIMS) in order to provide a consistent nationwide approach to more effectively prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters. The existing California SEMS substantially meets the objectives of the federal National Incident Management System.

Adoption of this resolution, which mirrors the resolution promulgated by Governor Schwarzenegger, will allow NIMS to become the regulatory guidance for emergency response, preparedness, mitigation, prevention and recovery within Napa County.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact? No

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of

Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

California currently utilizes the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) to respond to a variety of disasters. This system has been developed over time and was formally adopted in 1993 for use by all state and local agencies and emergency responders. A standardized organizational structure provides for uniformity throughout state and local agencies during response to and recovery from all types of emergency/disaster situations.

The President has now directed the Department of Homeland Security to develop and administer a comparable National Incident Management System (NIMS) to provide a consistent nationwide approach to disaster prevention, response and recovery by federal, state, local and tribal governments. The federal government is requiring full NIMS implementation by September 30, 2006. NIMS compliance will be the benchmark prerequisite requirement for all future federal homeland security grants. The adoption of NIMS in Napa County will be relatively straight forward, since in California, SEMS to a large extent meets the federal objectives contained in NIMS.

The County of Napa is the lead agency for the Napa Operational Area council which consists of the unincorporated county, the incorporated cities, special districts and volunteer and private agencies that have an emergency response role during a disaster or emergency. The Napa County Code, Chapter 2.80, provides for the County Emergency Services Council which develops and recommends for adoption by the Board of Supervisors, emergency and mutual aid plans, and such agreements, ordinances and resolutions as considered necessary to implement such plans and agreements.

Adoption of this resolution will adopt the National Incident Management System as the foundation for regulatory guidance for emergency response, preparedness, mitigation, prevention and recovery within Napa County. This resolution further directs the County Office of Emergency Services and the Napa Operational Area council to accomplish the following:

- | Develop a program to integrate NIMS, as appropriate, into the County emergency management system.
- | Identify any needed amendments to existing County codes or regulations to allow for the implementation of NIMS.
- | Report on the status of the implementation to the County Emergency Services Council no later than June 30, 2006.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

A . NIMS resolution

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Andrew Carey