

An overview of 11-05-2009 Local Emergency Declaration
And
Possible use of Incident Management Team to combat
Current Modoc County Fiscal Crisis

Presented by:

Tony Richno
Deputy Director
Modoc County Office of Emergency Services

Current Situation

County and other government agency accounts payable have, and are being held from payment at Auditor's Office.

Vendors are beginning to terminate or withhold services for county departments.

There is a significant lack of trust in all areas.

Telephones at Adin Ambulance station turned off for non-payment, affecting both emergency dispatch and business operations.

Long distance service at hospital discontinued, limiting ability of staff to care for critically ill patients.

Social Services placed on credit hold with tire vendor, preventing purchase of needed tires by Social Services.

Purchase of budgeted, grant funded equipment for EOC operations delayed to avoid cash flow impacts

Loan payments for Adin Fire District not paid in timely manner resulting in poor banking relationship and increased fees for that entity.

Agencies withholding deposit of funds into County Treasury due to concerns About security and liquidity. They are withdrawing their funds currently on deposit to cover operating costs, but are not depositing received funds into the Treasury. This creates a snowball, or domino effect.

Citizens are frustrated and talking of criminal indictments of county officials. This brings rise to questions of continuity of government.

Near Future

Possibility of insufficient funds in County Treasury to cover County Payroll by February/March 2010

This facts put forward by County CAO Charlton at Board of Supervisors Meeting 11-3-09

Not disputed or questioned by anyone present in room. Alice Marrs, County Auditor was present.

Will banks accept county IOU's for deposit?

Very doubtful if most county employees will continue to work without pay.

If even 1/3 of county employees fail to report for work, the county will not be able to provide many basic, essential services.

Operation of county jail

Law Enforcement Response to Calls

Operation of 911 Dispatch Center

Operation of Ambulances

Operation of Hospital/Emergency Room

Collection of Taxes

Payment of Bills/Accounting for funds

Snowplowing/Road Maintenance

Processing of State Assistance/Food Stamps

Prosecution of criminal cases

Processing of child support cases

Public Health Services- H1N1& Other programs

Probation- Monitoring & Supervision of convicted criminals

Operation Fire Districts

Many services are provided by the county under contract to state and federal agencies

Without employees providing these services, we will lose the revenue stream provided by these contracts.

This will greatly exacerbate the problem.

GC 8558 Section C

“Local Emergency” means the duly proclaimed existence of condition of disaster or of Extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the territorial limits of a county, City and county, or city caused by such conditions as air pollution, fire, flood, storm, Epidemic, riot, drought, sudden and severe energy shortage, plant or animal infestation Or disease, the Governor's warning of an earthquake or volcanic prediction, or an Earthquake or other conditions, other than conditions resulting from a labor controversy, Which are, or are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment And facilities of that political subdivision and require the combined forces of other Political subdivisions to combat, or with respect to to regulated energy utilities, a sudden And severe energy shortage requires extraordinary measures beyond the authority Vested in the California Public Utilities Commission.

Modoc County Code 2.40.020 uses this same definition

Modoc County Code 2.40.060

Gives the authority to proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a local Emergency to the Director of Emergency Services

Proclamation must be ratified within 7 days by Board of Supervisors.

Provides broad executive, discretionary powers to the Director of Emergency Services to take Immediate action to protect the persons and property within the county.

With ratification of local emergency by Board of Supervisors, powers are broadened in scope.

Modoc County Code 2.40.100

Makes it a misdemeanor to willfully obstruct, hinder, or delay a member of the emergency Organization of the county in the enforcement of any lawful rule or regulation issued under provisions of that chapter.

There is clearly a current emergency
situation in Modoc County,

with

An imminent worsening of that situation.

Manage situation like any other emergency:

Formally declare emergency and ask for ratification from BOS

Use executive powers of Director of Emergency Services to:

Activate Emergency Operations Center

- Determine Objectives

- Develop Plan

- Request Aid as necessary

- Execute Tactical Operations

We don't know the exact result of continued inaction, but it is obvious that it won't be good

Bold, Decisive action is needed to manage the emergency.

Taking action is what an incident management organization is designed to do.

We have individuals in this county trained and ready to Manage an emergency.

The purpose of an the Incident Command System is to facilitate
A number of people working together towards a common goal.

The ICS system has been used since the early 1970's to manage
incidents and
Events throughout the country.

There are very specific, standardized rules and procedures within
ICS that dictate the
Organizational structures and methods of operation/interaction
amongst the team
Using it.

In a multi jurisdictional emergency event, Modoc county is required,
through board
Resolution and the standards of the National Incident Management
System to use ICS
To manage that emergency.

Possible BOS Agency Direction to EOC

Build public, creditor, employee and government to government confidence in Modoc County Government

Develop plan for continuance of basic county services
Through June 30, 2009

Develop plan for long term provision of essential county services

Possible EOC Objectives

Ensure transparency in government and improve stakeholder confidence by providing daily updates regarding current financial status and work being done on county fiscal situation to all county employees, entities with money on deposit in Modoc County Treasury, media outlets, creditors, and any other interested persons/entities.

Secure contract for completion of county audit by November 30, 2009

Develop written cash flow management policy for board adoption no later than November 30, 2009

Identify \$500,000 of current fiscal year general fund saving or general fund revenue enhancement strategies for consideration by Board of Supervisors no later than November 30, 2009.

Secure short term line of credit to meet county cash flow needs for current fiscal year no later than January 31, 2010

Identify \$1,400,000 in savings or revenue enhancement over FY09/10 general fund budget for FY10/11 budget by April 1, 2010

Secure long term financing to correct fund deficiencies by July 1, 2010

Enhance current leadership structure of county administration to reduce likelihood Of a similar situation ever occurring again.