

Resolution 1/2016

Town of Westford Participation in the Beaver Dam Area "Water Rescue"

Whereas; The Town of Westford, Dodge County Wisconsin, is located within the City of Beaver Dam, Randolph and Fox Lake Fire Districts and;

Whereas; The Town of Westford pursuant to Wisconsin State Statute 60.55 is a Member of the Beaver Dam, Randolph and Fox Lake Fire Associations for purposes of fire protection services through the Associations' Agreements and;

Whereas; The Town of Westford pursuant to Wisconsin State Statute 60.565 duties separately and independently contracts for ambulance services with the City of Beaver Dam and Randolph Fire and Rescue Departments, and;

Whereas; The City of Beaver Dam Fire and Rescue Department has made request to the Beaver Dam Area Rural Fire Assn. for assistance to fund and support a "Water rescue/Dive team" including necessary equipment, training, personnel, and support, and;

Whereas; The "Water rescue/Dive team" resources will predominately be intended for use on and deployed to "Waters of the State" within the City of Beaver Dam and Area Fire Assn. District for the rescue of human beings and or recovery of human bodies, and;

Whereas; Current Wisconsin State Statutes 59.27(11) recognizes the County Sheriff as having the Power and Duty to rescue human beings and or recover human bodies from "Waters of the State," and;

Whereas; The Town of Westford along with the affiliated groups of the Beaver Dam Area Rural Fire Assn., Cities of Beaver Dam and Randolph as well as Fox Lake Fire Departments have limited means to fund the necessary and highly specialized equipment, personnel, training, maintenance, and support, and;

Whereas; The only substantial funding source available to the Town of Westford, members of the Beaver Dam Area Rural Fire Assn., Cities of Beaver Dam and Randolph Fire and Rescue Departments are through a general Property Tax Levy, and;

Whereas; State imposed Levy limits also influence the ability of the Town of Westford, members of the Beaver Dam Area Rural Fire Assn., Cities of Beaver Dam and Randolph Fire and Rescue Departments to Levy the necessary funding requirements without impacting other governmental functions and services, and

Whereas; The Town of Westford desires the establishment, operation, and perpetuation of an effective "Water rescue/Dive team" in the City of Beaver Dam and the Beaver Dam Area Rural Fire District in the interest of public safety, and;


Whereas; The Town of Westford believes and endorses participation in funding of an effective and properly equipped "Water rescue/Dive team" by Dodge County is vital, necessary, and required in the protection of public health and safety on/in "Waters of the State" within the Beaver Dam, Fox Lake and Randolph Area Rural Association Fire Districts, where Randolph shares half their fire district with Columbia County where Columbia County provides for front-line water rescue services with-in Columbia County, and;

Whereas; The Town of Westford also requests for establishment of County wide "Water rescue/Dive team" capabilities on/in all "Waters of the State" to help ensure effective rescue of human beings and or recovery of human bodies, and;

Whereas, Pursuant to Wisconsin State Statutes 59.54(1) and (2), the Dodge County Board of Dodge County, Wisconsin has the duty and power to fund a county wide "Water Rescue and Dive team."

Now therefore be it resolved; The Town of Westford requests the Dodge County Board of Dodge County, Wisconsin to meet its obligations as directed under Wisconsin Statutes by participating in the establishment and perpetuation of effective "Water rescue and Dive team" capabilities in Dodge County, State of Wisconsin which would include the Cities of Beaver Dam and Randolph as well as Fox Lake Fire Districts for the purpose of the rescue of human beings and/or recovery of human bodies on or in all "Waters of the State" located in Dodge County.

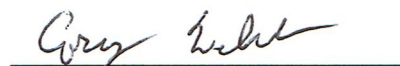
Attested by:

  
Jenice Henderson, Clerk

Signed this 7<sup>th</sup> day of March by Town of Westford Board

  
Dane Banes, Chairperson

  
Joe Rake, Supervisor

  
Corey Welch, Supervisor