



## LOCAL GOVERNMENT

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

# PLANNING AND PREPAREDNESS ACTIVITIES

2023

- ➔ **The Association of Minnesota Emergency Managers is renewing its request for passage of the Emergency Management Readiness Proposal with a minimum appropriation built into the base of at least \$3 million annually. This appropriation for local government and tribal emergency management grants is minimal assistance and will be used for planning and preparedness activities as well as capital purchases. If all county and tribal governments were funded to a level that would allow them to hire a full-time emergency manager, the appropriation needed would be \$15 million, and provide about \$150,000 per eligible entity.**
- ➔ Emergency management is a role required by both federal and state law. All county, first-class cities and Tribal Nation Emergency Managers are required to undertake an exhaustive series of state and federal educational and training courses to be officially certified in Minnesota and all are required to meet federal training and educational requirements to complete the Federal Emergency Management Agency professional development guidelines. Some of the managers have taken additional education and training to earn the Certified Emergency Manager designation from the USA Council of the International Association of Emergency Managers, as well.
- ➔ The majority of our rural emergency managers have no staff or wear multiple hats. Some of our county Emergency Managers not only handle daily preparedness for both natural and manmade disasters, but also manage the duties of Safety Officer, Planning and Zoning, Parks, Solid Waste or various Sheriff's Office and Fire Chief's duties. With COVID, emergency management duties were expanded for such things as providing guidance to county administration and county boards on mitigation strategies for response, organizing and providing incident command systems assistance to the local public health departments, and more.
- ➔ The Emergency Management Readiness Proposal creates a three-legged stool of funding – federal, state and local government for the planning, preparedness and disaster response programs it requires of local and tribal governments. These funds are essential to carry out the local public safety program required under law. The bill also provides that current local funding for emergency management and preparedness activities may not be supplanted by the state funds.
- ➔ The new state appropriation will begin in fiscal year 2024 and added as a base appropriation from the general fund to the commissioner of public safety for the director of the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division (HSEM) to award grants in equal amounts (approximately \$30,000) to emergency management departments in the 87 counties, 11 federally recognized tribes, and four cities of the first class, for planning and preparedness activities, including capital purchases.
- ➔ Our communities need these funds more than ever, we continually to ask them to do more with less while the need for planning and response growing, this is not good public safety policy.

### **Partners in support of this initiative include:**

Minnesota Rural Counties - Minnesota Inter-County Association  
Association of Minnesota Counties – Tribal Governments