



VALENCIA COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION No 2023- 36

ADOPTING THE NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (NIMS) AND THE NATIONAL QUALIFICATION SYSTEM AS THE BASIS FOR ALL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT WITHIN THE VALENCIA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners met in a regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, May 17th 2023, at 5:00 p.m. in the Valencia County Administration Building 444 Luna Avenue, Los Lunas, New Mexico 87031; and,

WHEREAS, NMSA 1978, Section 3-18-1 (1972) provides that municipalities, and also counties pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 4-37-1 (1995), have the power to "protect generally the property of its municipality and its inhabitants" and to "preserve peace and order"; and

WHEREAS, NMSA 1978, Section 12-10-5 (2007) provides that "[t]he governing bodies of the political subdivisions of the state are responsible for the all-hazard emergency management of their respective jurisdictions. Each political subdivision is authorized to establish, by ordinance or resolution, a local office of emergency management as an agency of the local government and responsible to the governing body, in accordance with the state emergency operations plan and program. Every local coordinator of emergency management shall be appointed by the governing body, subject to the approval of the state director of homeland security and emergency management, and the local coordinator shall have direct responsibility for carrying out all-hazard emergency management program of the political subdivision [] Each local organization shall perform emergency management functions within the territorial limits of the political subdivision within which it is organized."

WHEREAS, Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD-5), directed the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security to develop and administer a National Incident Management System (NIMS), initially published in March 2004 and then revised in October 2017; and,

WHEREAS, State of New Mexico Office of the Governor, Executive Order 2005-0014, designation of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) as the basis for all incident management in the State of New Mexico; and,

WHEREAS, the NIMS provides a consistent nationwide approach for Federal, State, Local, and Tribal governments, the private sector, and non-governmental organizations (NGO) to work together to prepare for, respond to, recover from, and mitigate domestic incidents, emergencies, and disasters regardless of cause, size, or complexity; and,

WHEREAS, the NIMS provides the most efficient and effective incident management, standardized terminology, standard organizational structures, interoperable communications, consolidated action plans, unified command structures, uniform personnel qualification standards, uniform standards for planning, training, and exercising, comprehensive resource management, and designated incident facilities during emergencies and-or disasters; and,

WHEREAS, the NIMS standardized procedures have been included in the Valencia County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan adopted by Resolution 2020-07, which incorporated managing personnel, communications, facilities and resources; and,

WHEREAS, Presidential Policy Directive (PPD-8) requires the Federal Department of Homeland Security to coordinate with local governments to facilitate an integrated capabilities-based approach to preparedness, which includes a planning framework for prevention, protection, response, recovery, and mitigation with common terminology and approach using NIMS.

WHEREAS, FEMA was tasked with implementing 6 USC 320 Credentialing and Typing in the Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act (PKEMRA) and developed the National Qualification System (NQS). The NQS provides: Foundational guidelines for jurisdictions on the qualification of personnel resources within the National Incident Management System (NIMS); provides a common language and standardized approach for qualifying, certifying, and credentialing incident management and support personnel; and Tools for jurisdictions and organizations to share resources seamlessly. The ability to provide mutual aid accurately and rapidly is critical during disasters, but mutual aid partners often lack a common language and standardized approach to support the sharing of qualified personnel. Using the NQS ensures personnel deploying have demonstrated the minimum capabilities to perform the duties of their assigned incident roles.

WHEREAS, Valencia County will implement the National Qualification System in a phased approach in accordance with the guidelines that FEMA has outline in the National Qualification System (NQS) Implementation Objectives Fact Sheet.

WHEREAS, The NQS implementation Objectives will reflect the concepts and principles contained in NQS doctrine and aim to promote consistency in NQS implementation nationwide. The NQS implementation Objectives provides guidance for the implementation in the 2021 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) Notice of Funding Opportunity. EMPG Program recipients are strongly encouraged to implement components of the NQS and may use their EMPG Program funds to support NQS implementation efforts. Beginning in Fiscal Year 2022, FEMA intends to make NQS implementation a requirement of award for EMPG Program funding. In a phased approach over four years, EMPG recipients should work toward achieving each of the objectives listed in this document in order to be considered NQS-compliant. For the purposes of these Implementation Objectives, "incident workforce" is defined as frequently deployed incident management, incident support or emergency management personnel, as