

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN
Arkansas City
AND
Cowley County

REGARDING THE USE OF OUTDOOR WARNING SIRENS

I. Purpose

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is made and entered into between Arkansas City (hereinafter referred to as "City") and Cowley County (hereinafter referred to as "County") for the purpose of establishing a coordinated approach to the use, maintenance, and operation of Outdoor Warning Sirens within the jurisdiction of Arkansas City and Cowley County.

II. Authority

This MOU is established under the authority granted by Kansas Statute 48-929, which mandates the creation and maintenance of disaster agencies at the county and city levels, as well as coordination between these agencies.

III. Objectives

1. **Coordination:** To ensure effective coordination between City and County disaster agencies regarding the use of Outdoor Warning Sirens.
2. **Efficiency:** To promote efficient use and maintenance of Outdoor Warning Sirens to enhance public safety during emergencies.
3. **Communication:** To establish clear lines of communication and responsibility between the City and County during disaster situations.

IV. Responsibilities

1. **County Responsibilities:**
 - o The County shall maintain a disaster agency responsible for emergency management and coordination of disaster response, as required by K.S.A. 48-929(a).
 - o The County disaster agency shall cooperate with the City's disaster agency, providing support and resources as available.
 - o The County shall include Arkansas City in its disaster emergency plans and ensure the integration of the City's Outdoor Warning Sirens into the County's emergency notification system.
2. **City Responsibilities:**
 - o The City shall maintain a disaster agency if determined necessary by the Governor under K.S.A. 48-929(b).

- The City is the sole owner of the Outdoor Warning Sirens located inside the city limits of Arkansas City. Maintenance of the Outdoor Warning Siren located in IXL shall be by agreement between the City and Bolton Township to ensure their proper functioning. Maintenance and repairs to the sirens, poles, and all associated controls are ultimately the responsibility of the City.
 - The City shall notify the County disaster agency of any changes or issues related to the Outdoor Warning Sirens within (72) hours.
- 3. Joint Responsibilities:**
- Both parties shall prepare and keep current disaster emergency plans as required by K.S.A. 48-929(d), ensuring these plans are integrated and consistent.
 - Both parties shall prepare and distribute a clear and complete statement of the emergency responsibilities of all local agencies and officials as per K.S.A. 48-929(e).
 - Both parties shall participate in joint training exercises and testing to ensure effective coordination and response during actual emergencies.

V. Communication and Activation

1. If time allows, the City's disaster agency shall notify the County's disaster agency or Emergency Communications Dispatch promptly in the event of an emergency requiring the activation of Outdoor Warning Sirens.
2. If the City's disaster agency personnel are unable to sound Outdoor Warning Sirens in an appropriate amount of time, the City's disaster agency designee shall contact the County's disaster agency or Emergency Communications Dispatch and request the sounding of the Outdoor Warning Sirens.
3. The City and County disaster agencies shall meet to review and update procedures and protocols related to the use of Outdoor Warning Sirens annually.

VI. Duration and Review

1. This MOU shall become effective upon signature by both parties and shall remain in effect until terminated by either party with 60 days written notice.
2. This MOU shall be reviewed annually by both parties to ensure its continued relevance and effectiveness.

VII. Signatures

By signing below, the representatives of Arkansas City and Cowley County agree to the terms and conditions set forth in this MOU.

Arkansas City

Name: Mayor, Jay Warren

Date:

Assist:

City Clerk, Tiffany Parsons

Cowley County

Name: Board Chairperson Alan Groom

Date:

Assist:

County Clerk, Karen Madison