



KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

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MIKE NAVARRE
BOROUGH MAYOR

MEMORANDUM

TO: Gary Knopp, Assembly President
Members, Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly

THRU: Mike Navarre, Mayor *Mike Navarre*

FROM: Eric Mohrmann, Emergency Management Director *Eric Mohrmann*

DATE: December 22, 2012

SUBJECT: Ordinance 2011-19-63, appropriating grant money for mass casualty and alternative care response equipment

Assembly member Charlie Pierce requested additional information on Ordinance 2011-19-63 during the finance committee meeting that occurred on December 6, 2011. Unfortunately, I was not able to attend that committee meeting as I was attending a conference with the Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management in Anchorage on that date.

- Question #1: Is the borough using public facilities during times of emergency response?

Yes. The primary shelter locations are the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District schools. Alternate facilities, such as churches, have been identified and are also available for sheltering purposes.

The proposed equipment is a portable, modular system that can be transported to remote locations, used as a supplemental health care facility, or is available if primary shelters or medical facilities are damaged.

- Question #2: Why is there a need to purchase a second system?

The systems are modular and can be interconnected to expand the available space. The plan is to have one portable shelter facility in Seward, one in the Kenai/Soldotna area and one in Homer. If a seismic event damages bridges, each community would have a portable shelter system. If needed and if the roads are intact, the adjoining units can be transported down to enlarge the facility. The portable systems can also be transported by aircraft or ocean vessel.

The third portable shelter system will be requested under the 2012 State Homeland Security Grant program to complete the project. Materials and supplies purchased for the first unit have already been used for two real-world sheltering events that occurred during the month of November 2011.