MEMORANDUM

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

THRU: David R. Carey, Mayor

FROM: Sue Wilcox, Chief of Staff

DATE: April 21, 2011

SUBJECT: Resolution 2011-04-4: approving an intergovernmental cooperative fire protection agreement

Alaska Statute 41.15.010 provides that it is the intent of AS 41.15.010-41.15.170 that the State of Alaska provide protection from wildland fire and other destructive agents, commensurate with the values at risk, on land that is owned privately, by the state, or by a municipality. It is also recognized by the Kenai Peninsula Borough and its service areas that an obligation exists to provide protection to life and property from wildland fires within its areas of responsibility, subject to available resources, funding, and personnel. Therefore, it is to the mutual advantage of the borough, its service areas, and the state to coordinate efforts in the prevention, detection, and suppression of wildland fires. It is in the best interests of the borough, its service areas, and the state that wildland fires be suppressed quickly and efficiently to minimize the destruction of natural resources and the threat to life, property, and communities.

On April 20, 2004, the assembly adopted resolution 2004-043, approving an Intergovernmental Cooperative Agreement between itself and on behalf of its emergency service areas and the State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources. For 2011, this Agreement has been updated and revised and requires assembly approval. The proposed resolution authorizes the borough to enter into an Agreement on its own behalf because the Office of Emergency Management, which is not a service area, is often called on by the Division of Forestry to cooperate with it in the event of a wildland fire. The Office of Emergency Management could provide the command vehicle on a temporary basis and does provide personnel for incident management purposes.