

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT BETWEEN IOWA STATE FIRE MARSHAL FIRE SERVICE TRAINING BUREAU AND CITY OF AMES

BACKGROUND:

From 1966 to 2020, Ames was home to the Iowa Fire Service Training Bureau (FSTB), a division of the Iowa State Fire Marshal's Office. The proximity of the FSTB provided numerous mutually beneficial trainings and educational opportunities for both the Ames Fire Department and the FSTB. A great partnership has been formed over the years, with resource sharing between the FSTB's facilities and Ames Fire Department apparatus and firefighters, resulting in cost savings for both organizations. In July 2020, the FSTB relocated to Camp Dodge in Johnston, Iowa.

FSTB continues to hold its State Fire School, which is one of the most visible and highly attended training opportunities within the State of Iowa for the Fire Service industry. The event takes place in Ames in partnership with the Ames Fire Department. This event brings hundreds of firefighters and fire service vendors from Iowa and neighboring states to Ames for a weekend full of fire related classroom and hands-on training. The dates of this year's State Fire School are July 17 – 18.

The FSTB previously utilized two locations for the weekend-long training: 1) The former training grounds previously rented from ISU located on Haber Road, and 2) The Scheman Building. With the FSTB's recent relocation to Camp Dodge, the FSTB no longer has access to the ISU training grounds and is asking permission to utilize the City's Public Safety Training Site, located at 309 Carnegie Avenue, for some of the hands-on training evolutions. Those training evolutions include: Search and Rescue, Car Fires, Vertical Ventilation, and Vehicle Extrication Training.

A Hold Harmless Agreement has been drafted to facilitate the use of the City's Public Safety Training Site by the FSTB (Attachment A). It should be noted that there will be no additional costs to the City for use of the City's Public Safety Training Site by the FSTB.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the Hold Harmless Agreement between Iowa State Fire Marshal Fire Service Training Bureau and the City of Ames.
2. Refer the Hold Harmless Agreement to staff for revisions.
3. Do not approve the Hold Harmless Agreement and do not allow outside agencies to use the City's Public Safety Training Site.

CITY MANAGER’S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The partnership between the Ames Fire Department and the FSTB has been mutually beneficial for both organizations for decades. Ames Firefighters are provided multiple training opportunities and experiences through the FSTB for little to no cost. Additionally, the FSTB’s State Fire School brings hundreds of firefighters from around the State to Ames for the weekend, which brings economic opportunities for local businesses and hotels.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, as described above.

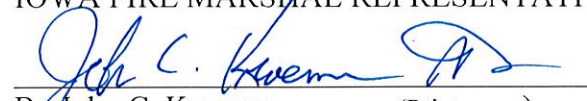
**HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE IOWA STATE FIRE MARSHAL FIRE SERVICES TRAINING BUREAU
AND THE CITY OF AMES, IOWA**

THIS AGREEMENT is entered into between the Iowa Department of Public Safety State Fire Marshal Fire Services Training Bureau (hereinafter referred to as "Department") and the City of Ames, Iowa (hereinafter referred to as "City"). The City will allow the Department to utilize the Ames Fire Department Training Grounds located in Ames, Iowa. The Department will use the Training Grounds July 17 through July 18, 2021. Without waiving any immunities or protections granted under the Constitution of the State of Iowa or the Iowa Code, the State of Iowa and the Iowa Department of Public Safety hereby agrees, to the extent allowed under the law, to indemnify and hold the City of Ames, Iowa, and its employees, harmless from and against all liability for injuries to any person or persons, including death, or damage to property caused by the use of the Training Grounds owned by the City of Ames. The undersigned shall give the City prompt and timely notice of any claim made or suit instituted which in any way, directly or indirectly, contingently or otherwise, affects or might affect the City related to the use of the Training Ground.

DATED AT: Johnston, Iowa, this 25th day of March, 2021.

IOWA FIRE MARSHAL REPRESENTATIVE

CITY OF AMES, IOWA


By John C. Kraemer (Print name)
Bureau Chief (Title)

By _____ (Print name)

(Title)