

## CHAPTER 36

# UNDERWATER SEARCH AND RESCUE UNIT

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**36.01 ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSE.** The Okoboji Underwater Search and Rescue Unit is hereby established as a branch of the Okoboji Volunteer Fire Department to provide rescue services on State waters adjacent to the corporate boundaries of the City and to assist law enforcement agencies in underwater search and rescue operations and to provide these specialized services as mutual aid to other fire departments or governmental entities when requested.

**36.02 ORGANIZATION.** The Okoboji Underwater Search and Rescue Unit is under the supervision of the Fire Chief. All members of the Fire Department will be the support crew and not more than twelve (12) members shall be certified divers at any one time.

**36.03 QUALIFICATIONS.** Volunteer firefighters wishing to become certified divers shall provide evidence that they are physically capable of undergoing the required training and thereafter able to perform the duties as certified members of the diving team as may be required from time to time. Evidence of physical fitness shall be provided by a licensed physician and approved by the Fire Chief.

**36.04 CLASSES OF CERTIFICATION.** Members of the unit shall be certified in one of the following classes:

1. Open Water;
2. Advanced Open Water;
3. Search and Recovery.

**36.05 TRAINING.** All members of the Underwater Search and Rescue Unit shall attend and actively participate in regular or special training drills or programs as directed by the Fire Chief.

**36.06 ACCIDENTAL INJURY INSURANCE.** The Council shall contract to insure the City against liability for worker's compensation and against statutory liability for the costs of hospitalization, nursing and medical attention for volunteer firefighters injured in the performance of their duties as members of the Underwater Search and Rescue Unit, whether within or outside the corporate limits of the City. All volunteer members shall be covered by the contract.

**36.07 LIABILITY INSURANCE.** The Council shall contract to insure against liability of the City or members of the department for injuries, death or property damage while acting on behalf of or in the interests of the City. Volunteer members, while under the direction of the City, shall be provided coverage as prescribed in the "Risk Sharing Certificate," even if their duties require that they leave the confines of the City. It is