

STAFF REPORT



SUBJECT: EMS Battalion Chief

DEPARTMENT: Fire Department

STAFF CONTACT: Robert Isbell

RECOMMENDATION:

Consider Authorizing a Position of EMS Battalion Chief

BACKGROUND:

Currently the department operates with a single Battalion Chief on shift. Last year we created the Division Chiefs and agreed to eliminate the Battalion Chiefs through attrition. Since that time we have attrition of one Battalion Chief.

Today our Community Assistance, Resource, Education System (CARES) program is managed by our Community Resource Paramedic. This program is operated at a level above the rank structure of our CRP. This initiative includes management of all our EMS operations as well as the CARES program to include the following:

- Manage operations of the CARES Program and other MIH projects.
- Function as the lead practitioner in the CARES program, supervising the enrollment, case management, and discharge of clients.
- Oversee daily EMS operations, including personnel, supply, and documentation.
- Performance of clinical reviews of electronic health records (EHRs) and recommending resolutions of clinical performance issues.
- Research and development of new EMS/MIH protocols, policies, and procedures while in collaboration with the EMS Medical Director.
- Lead the development, implementation, and performance of continuous quality improvement of clinical treatment guidelines in conjunction with the EMS Committee.
- Developing, implementing, and overseeing EMS/MIH training, including the credentialing of EMS/MIH providers.

The CARES program management would benefit greatly from a supervisory level officer at the rank of Battalion Chief (renamed EMS Chief). The position would be a forty-hour week supervisor classed employee. Today our CRP works a cursory number of overtime hours each week while on shift to cover appointments and meetings. These hours would be eased with a more normal schedule and absorbed into the new position. The CRP is routinely meeting with the Medical Director, Hospital President, and other community leaders in the associated healthcare profession.

FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY:

Continuing the budgeted salary for one Battalion Chief

ALTERNATIVES

- Continue with existing structure and use of overtime management