

Theron Becker

From: Theron Becker
Sent: Wednesday, July 1, 2020 5:21 PM
To: CMHEMS
Subject: weekly internal EMS update

Another week of a bunch of stuff going on:

- The hospital is having organization-wide safety huddles every morning that we are participating in and have gained several avenues of increased communication and coordination between departments. We have more advanced notice of staffing issues and capacity throughout the hospital, which lets us plan our teams better. Additionally, it is an avenue to discuss safety issues like needing power cots, field supervision, shorter/less busy shifts, etc.
- We made the decision yesterday to go back to the full staffing we had prior to COVID. This means all ALS shifts in Bolivar are back to 12-hours starting this Friday. We are still struggling to hire more EMTs to fill some vacancies and back-fill some EMTs that are now paramedics. Out of the past couple weeks of interviews (those that returned calls or even bothered to show up to the interview), we have tried to hire a couple of them, and only one is returning phone calls to accept the position. If you know of any EMTs that want a job, tell them to fill out an application.
- A couple of big projects going on this week include a proposal for dedicated crew leaders and a proposal for a float truck to cover Hickory County.
- The crew leader proposal has already been approved by hospital finance. This will actually save us a little money because hiring six Crew Leaders that have a small increase in salary and a small increase in responsibility (basically, a supervisor of a station) is less expensive than filling the two open manager positions. Tom and Alice would move towards “regional” managers in charge of multiple crew leaders.
- The float truck proposal is designed to relieve call volume stress and missed calls in Hickory County. We are going to request a 12-hour shift starting at 9 am to mainly sit in the Hermitage station 7-days per week but be available to float to other areas as they go status zero. This has not been approved by anyone, but Gary Fulbright did request us to bring him a formal proposal.
- A couple of education announcements went out this week. Hazmat Medic is July 13, and the EMT Academy starts in September. Please apply and forward as appropriate.
- Heros stimulus checks came in today. The hospital board of directors has approved these checks to be given to all CMH employees in recognition of your hard work and sacrifices during COVID.
- Orbcomm is still basically broken and waiting for the company to release their staff to be able to travel again so an engineer can come on-site and fix the hardware.
- We are right on the edge of implementing service-wide scanning of face sheets, PCS, etc. into ESO instead of creating a daily log and inter-office mailing them. Stand by for more info and instructions. This will be part of the documentation process and will be required by all staff.
- Managers spent a lot of time today working on a plan for moving staff as there are a lot of changes going on with switching stations, shifts, etc. We are looking at 7/11 as the date that will go live. I believe everyone affected has already given their consent and understand the new move.
- There continues to be a nation-wide shortage of some medications we use, and there are a few more on the horizon that might be less available.
- Make sure you have your coolers with ice on your ambulance at the beginning of each shift as days are going to be hot.
- There are lots of events going on this weekend and in the coming weeks. To limit exposure to crews, stay out of crowds of people and stage away from these events, if possible. Create a plan with event

organizers and first responders for a casualty collection point for you to respond to instead of being in the middle of people coughing and sneezing on you, giving you COVID.

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CMH EMS Mission:

Provide safe, exceptional, and compassionate care
to our communities with an emphasis on
highly trained and empowered staff.