

AGENDA ITEM # 19April 13, 1999Consider declaring an emergency and acknowledging additional expenditures for EMS to:

0100-0540-001100	Salaries	\$37,478.34
0100-0540-002000	Fringe Benefits	9,138.66

EMS Director John Sneed discussed the problem of his department not having the time to provide the expected transfer services to area hospitals and nursing homes. Hospital patient increase has resulted in a 33% EMS transfer increase this year resulting in a back-up of non-emergency patients. The hospital administration understands the emergency transfers have priority, the floor managers do not and are unhappy with the service. Mr. Sneed expressed his concern of the hospitals using private ambulance services unless some EMS staffing corrections occur. These patients pay their bills generating revenue which 911 does not.

The Director requested permission to employ two (2) new paramedics explaining sixty per cent (60%) collection of four (4) calls per day should generate approximately \$133,000.00. The two paramedics would work 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and would not require a new vehicle.

Mr. Sneed also discussed the 21% increase in the call volume in Georgetown alone and suggested the court consider another station in the 1999-2000 budget.

EMS Director John Sneed reported the City of Bartlett is currently considering the provision of a first responder organization with ambulance service provided either from Williamson County EMS or Scott and White in Temple. The city had requested permission to provide an advance life support first responder group but Mr. Sneed is not comfortable with nor will he agree to same because of his uncertainty of the quality of care involved. EMS is currently responding to Bartlett calls from Taylor with a 14/15 minute response. He cannot justify a Bartlett station with an average of one (1) call per day.

102

Moved: Commissioner Hays

Seconded: Judge Doerfler

Motion: To declare an emergency and acknowledge additional expenditures for EMS to:

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0100-0540-002000	Fringe Benefits	9,138.66

with a year-end report to the court of total revenue generated by these two positions.

Vote: Motion carried 4 - 0 with Commissioner Heiligenstein absent from the dais.

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