



CITY OF BLAIR

MEMORANDUM

DATE: 10/08/2026

MEMO TO: City Council and Mayor

FROM: Ty Hernes, EMS Captain

RE: BVFD Bylaw Amendment – Removal of Section 12.1 Medical Director

SUMMARY:

The Blair Volunteer Fire Department (BVFD) requests approval to remove Section 12.1, Medical Director, from Chapter 12 of its bylaws. Removing this provision will provide the department greater flexibility to identify and appoint a new Medical Director while maintaining medical oversight in accordance with applicable Nebraska requirements.

PREVIOUS ACTION:

Section 12.1 currently establishes a BVFD-specific process for selecting and approving the Medical Director, including selection by the Captain of EMS and Fire Chief, final approval by the BVFD membership, and notification to the Mayor and City Council. It also sets out duties and restrictions associated with the position. BVFD is requesting removal of this section in its entirety.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

BVFD is working toward identifying a new Medical Director. The current bylaw language adds department-specific appointment steps and conditions that may limit flexibility during that process. BVFD understands that its inclusion of a detailed Medical Director provision in its bylaws is unusual among Nebraska fire departments. Removing Section 12.1 would allow BVFD to proceed with the selection process without these additional internal bylaw restrictions. This amendment does not eliminate the need for a Medical Director or change any applicable state requirements for EMS medical oversight.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

No direct financial impact is anticipated from the bylaw amendment itself. Any costs associated with a future Medical Director arrangement would be addressed separately, if applicable.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the Blair Volunteer Fire Department request to remove Section 12.1, Medical Director, from Chapter 12 of the BVFD bylaws in its entirety.

