

Job Description – Fire Fighter

Position Title: Fire Fighter

General Summary:

To provide a general overview of the work commonly performed by personnel (excluding administrative and clerical) employed by the Coldsprings-Excelsior volunteer Fire & Rescue (CEVFR) Department. This is highly skilled emergency fire fighting, emergency medical services and other emergency response work.

The work involves responsibility for participating in the provision of fire suppression, rescue, emergency medical services as well as fire prevention and public fire safety education. Members are required to meet specified certification criteria and Fire Department training requirements. Members operate part-time on a paid-on-call basis, attend drills and meetings, and function as crewmembers.

Work also involves the operation of fire and emergency medical services equipment, and the maintenance of equipment, apparatus and fire station facilities. Members are required to operate apparatus and perform hazardous tasks and skilled medical procedures under emergency conditions which may involve strenuous exertion under such handicaps as fire, heat, smoke and cramped surroundings.

Although firefighting, emergency medical services, and other emergency response work are the most difficult and demanding areas of activity, a substantial portion of time will be spent training and studying methods, techniques, and procedures for various emergency response activities. Members will also participate in fire prevention, public fire safety education, pre-incident planning and other similar activity. Fire department personnel will also perform routine duties in the maintenance, inspection, testing and cleaning of fire department property, facilities and equipment. Members will read, comprehend, write, prepare reports and utilize computer equipment for a variety of applications.

Work is generally performed in accordance with department rules and regulations, standard operating guidelines and general orders, while under the supervision of a company officer or duty officer. Work performance is evaluated on the basis of initiative shown, fulfillment of job expectations and responsibilities, general conduct and member participation on special committees and assignments.

Firefighting and emergency response tasks can be very difficult, requiring performance functions which are physically and psychologically demanding.

Firefighting and emergency response personnel may be exposed to many toxic substances during incidents. Hazardous materials incidents may also involve exposures to a wide variety of toxic materials.

The strenuous work demands on emergency responders, combined with exposures to toxic substances may increase the risk for cardiovascular disease and cancer related ailments. Acute respiratory changes may also stress the cardiovascular system. For those reasons and due to the need to maintain a level of physical and mental fitness that is substantially higher than that required of the general population, firefighters and other emergency responders must accept responsibility for developing and maintaining an acceptable level of physical fitness.

Must be able to comply with the department's medical evaluation policy.

Essential Job Functions:

Fire Fighter must possess The Ability to:

Operate both as a member of a team and independently at incidents of uncertain duration.

Spend extensive time outside exposed to the elements.

To tolerate extreme fluctuations in temperature while performing duties. Must perform physically demanding work in hot (up to 400 degrees F), humid (up to 100%) atmospheres while wearing equipment that significantly impairs body cooling mechanisms.

Experience frequent transition from hot to cold and from humid to dry atmospheres.

Work in wet, icy, or muddy areas.

Perform a variety of tasks on slippery, hazardous surfaces such as on rooftops or from ladders.

Work in areas where the potential for traumatic or thermal injuries are possible.

Face possible exposure to hazardous materials or infectious agents including carcinogenic dust, such as; asbestos toxic substances, such as hydrogen cyanide, corrosives, carbon monoxide or organic solvents either through inhalation or skin contact.

Wear personal protective equipment that weighs approximately 50 pounds while performing various strenuous firefighting, rescue, and other related tasks.

Perform physically demanding work while wearing positive pressure breathing equipment with 1.5 inches of water column resistance to exhalation at a flow of 40 liters per minute.

Perform complex tasks during life-threatening emergencies. Ability to determine nature and extent of illness or injury. Ability to take pulse, blood pressure and perform other diagnostic techniques.

Work for long periods of time, requiring sustained physical activity and intense concentration.

Face life or death decisions during emergency conditions.

Face exposure to grotesque sights and smells associated with major trauma and burn victims.

Make rapid transitions from rest to near maximal exertion without warm-up periods.

Operate in environments of high noise, poor visibility, limited mobility, at heights, and in enclosed or confined spaces.

Use manual and power tools in the performance of duties.

Rely on senses of sight, hearing, smell, and touch to help determine the nature of the emergency; maintain personal safety; and make critical decisions in a confused, chaotic and potentially life threatening environment throughout the duration of the operation.

Raise, climb, and work from ground and aerial ladders, without work inhibiting fears of heights.

Rescue, by carrying or dragging, an adult weighting up to 175 lbs. from a burning structure or other dangerous situations.

Lift and carry at least fifty pounds over horizontal and vertical distances of at least 250 feet.

Operate hand and power tools in both emergency and non-emergency situations.

Drag hoses, both charged and uncharged, limited distances, both horizontally and vertically, at ground level and at varying heights.

Connect hose couplings in complete sunlight or in total darkness.

Maintain balance in varying situations.

Understand and carry out orders and assignments in both emergency and non-emergency situations, and must be able to demonstrate adequate speaking skills.

Communicate effectively face-to-face by radio and telephone.

Lift and carry a loaded stretcher up or down flights of stairs with one person to assist.

Read, speak and write English.

Run up to 400 yards.

Learn the skills and duties of the job at minimally acceptable levels within reasonable training time frame.

Appropriate motivation and discipline to learn complex job knowledge within reasonable training time frame.

Drive and operate all Department vehicles and apparatus.

Equipment:

An employee in this position must be able to efficiently operate the following equipment: firefighting apparatus and related equipment.

Certification:

Must possess a valid US drivers license. Must be able to obtain a valid State of Michigan Fire Fighter I certificate within 2 years. Unless waived by CEVFR board.

Physical Demands:

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

While performing the duties of the job, the employee is regularly required to use hands to handle or feel objects, tools or controls and reach with hands and arms. The employee frequently is required to sit and talk or hear. The employee is regularly required to stand; walk; climb or balance; stoop, kneel, crouch or crawl; and taste or smell.

The employee must regularly lift and/or move up to 10 pounds, frequently lift and/or move up to 25 pounds and occasionally lift and/or move more than 100 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distance vision, color vision, peripheral vision, depth perception, and ability to adjust focus.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATION: Certain trade areas within this job may require the use of a respirator. Such trade areas may require sufficient pulmonary and respiratory health to use a respirator and may preclude full beards or other obstructions preventing a positive facial fit for half-face or full-face respirators.

Work Environment:

The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job. Reasonable

accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee regularly works near moving mechanical parts; in high, precarious places; in outside weather conditions; in occupancies with explosives and hazardous material, is occasionally exposed to wet and/or humid conditions, fumes or airborne particles, toxic or caustic chemicals, extreme heat, and risk of electrical shock.

The noise level in the work environment is moderate to heavy.

This description is a general statement of required major duties and responsibilities performed on a regular and continuous basis. It does not exclude other duties as assigned.

Approved 1-18-2006

Board Member approved

Coldspring Excelsior Fire and Rescue
Standard Operating Policies
6565 County Road 612 NE
Kalkaska, MI 49646

Section 1.4

Approval Signatures

Fire Chief :

_____ Date: _____

Assistant Fire Chief:

_____ Date: _____

Coldsprings Twp Representative:

_____ Date: _____

Excelsior Twp Representative:

_____ Date: _____