

# TENNESSEE BOARD OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS ELECTRONIC BOARD MEETING

September 28, 2023

## MINUTES

Board Members Present:	Robert Kasper, MD Andrew Hull, PA-C Christina Free, Secretary, PA-C
Board Members Absent:	C. Marie Patterson, Chair, PA-C Gregory Cain, PA-C Barbara Thornton, Consumer Member David Roberts, PA-C J. Seth Weathersby, PA-C Robert White, PA-C
Staff Present:	Stacy Tarr, Executive Director Brandi Allocco Administrative Director Tracy Alcock, Office of General Counsel Ashley Fine, Office of General Counsel Angela Lawrence, HRB Director Dexter Hawkins, Board Administrator

Stacy Tarr, the board's Executive Director, commenced the meeting by introducing all staff and attorneys in attendance. She proceeded to outline the procedural steps necessary to properly convene the electronic board meeting. Roll call was conducted, confirming the presence of Robert Kasper, M.D., Christina S. Free, P.A., and Andrew Hull, P.A. Each participant acknowledged their ability to hear all other participants. Stacy also requested that each participant disclose anyone present in their location and confirm receipt of the meeting materials. Robert Kasper, M.D, Christina S. Free, PA, and Andrew Hull, P.A indicated no additional individuals were present and acknowledged receipt of the materials.

The purpose of the meeting, as stated by the Executive Director, was to deliberate on a proposed agreed order of discipline, signed by Logan Curran Martin, P.A., as an alternative to a hearing concerning a potential summary suspension action against his license. Due to the urgency of the matter and the impracticality of physical attendance by all members, the meeting was conducted electronically. The respondent's conduct posed an immediate threat to public health, safety, or welfare, necessitating emergency action. The availability of electronic participation by board members facilitated timely discussion and consideration of the issue.

Stacy requested motions and votes to proceed with the meeting electronically, as well as confirmation that the statutory requirements for an electronic board meeting were met. Robert Kasper, M.D. moved to proceed with the meeting, seconded by Andrew Hull, P.A. After a roll call vote, the motion carried. Christina Free, PA, then moved to confirm the fulfillment of statutory requirements for an electronic board meeting, seconded by Robert Kasper, M.D. following a roll call vote, the motion was approved.

## I. <u>APPOINTMENT OF ACTING CHAIR</u>

Christina Free, P.A moved for Andrew Hull, P.A to serve as the chair for the electronic meeting, seconded by Robert Kasper, M.D. The motion passed after a roll call vote. After recording the votes, Stacy concluded her remarks and handed over the proceedings to the appointed chair to begin the meeting.

## II. CONSENT ORDER

#### Logan Curran Martin, P.A

Ashley Fine, Senior Associate Counsel, proceeded to address the conflict-of-interest statement, inquiring whether any board members had conflicts of interest related to Logan Curran Martin, P.A. Each member, including Robert Kasper, M.D, Christina S. Free, PA, and Andrew Hull, P.A, stated the absence of any conflicts of interest. Stacy reminded all participants to identify themselves before speaking, confirm receipt and review of relevant reports and documents, and conduct board actions through roll call votes prior to adjournment. Ashley Fine, Senior Associate Counsel, gave an overview of the consent order, which was as follows: The Division of Health-Related Boards of the Tennessee Department of Health, represented by the Office of General Counsel, and Logan Curran Martin, P.A. (the Respondent), have submitted a Consent

Order to the Tennessee Board of Physician Assistants. This Consent Order has implications for the Respondent's license to practice as a physician assistant in Tennessee.

The Board is responsible for regulating and supervising physician assistants in the state, operating under the rules of the Board of Medical Examiners' Committee on Physician Assistants. Our policy is to ensure strict compliance with state laws and enforce the Tennessee Physician Assistants Act to promote and safeguard public health, safety, and welfare. The stipulations indicate that the Respondent displayed abnormal behavior and impairment while on duty at Beersheba Springs Medical Clinic. The Respondent was tardy, exhibited disorientation and hyperactivity, used inappropriate and vulgar language, and engaged in unrelated conversations. Additionally, the Respondent physically assaulted staff by twirling, throwing a knife, and striking a staff member with a flyswatter.

Furthermore, the Respondent refused to treat patients and neglected documenting patient encounters. On March 17, 2023, the Respondent admitted to a medical director at the clinic that oversleeping due to a prescribed sleep aid medication caused their tardiness on March 15, 2023. Based on these stipulated facts, grounds for disciplinary action against the Respondent's physician assistant license have been established. The violations include unprofessional or unethical conduct, unprofessional, dishonorable, or unethical conduct, violation, or attempted violation of the Physician Assistants Act or any lawful order of the Board, and habitual intoxication or personal misuse of drugs or alcohol affecting the ability to practice as a physician assistant. The Tennessee Board of Physician Assistants is taking this action to protect Tennessee residents' health, safety, and welfare by ensuring compliance with all legal and ethical requirements for physician assistants. The Consent Order outlines the agreed-upon terms to avoid further administrative action, including a summary suspension hearing. Christina Free, P.A moved to accept the Consent Order, with Robert Kasper, M.D., seconding the motion. Following a roll call vote, the motion passed.

#### III. ADJOURNMENT

Andrew Hull, P.A moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Robert Kasper, M.D. After a roll call vote, the motion carried, and the meeting concluded.

These meeting minutes were ratified by the Board at their October 13, 2023, meeting.