

**Minutes of the  
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES  
June 25, 2014**

The meeting of the Emergency Medical Services Board opened at 9:00 a.m. in the Iris Room at 665 Mainstream Drive, Nashville, Tennessee.

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/INTRODUCTION**

Dr. Sullivan Smith introduced the new Board member, Kappu Deshpande, and asked her to tell everyone a little about herself. Dr. Smith then asked Donna Tidwell to introduce the new staff member. Ms. Tidwell introduced Brandon Ward, the new Assistant Director. Dr. Smith then welcomed the schools that were present.

**Members of the Board present:**

Dr. Sullivan Smith, Chairman opened the meeting at 9 a.m. Roll call was taken following members present:

Tim Bell	Kevin Mitchell
Chris Brooks	Stephen Sutton
Jeff Davis	Robert W. Thurman JR
Kappu Deshpande	Tyler White
Larry Hutsell	

Ten (10) members were in attendance, a quorum was established.

Board members not present:

James Ross and Robert Webb

**Also present:**

Donna G. Tidwell, Director Office of Emergency Medical Services  
Brandon Ward, Assistant Director  
Keith Hodges, Legal Counsel  
Dr. Joe Holley, State Medical Director  
Steve Hamby, Regional Consultant  
Debbie Cox, Regional Consultant  
Teddy Myracle, Regional Consultant  
O'Neal Ellis, Regional Consultant  
Ray Cook, EMS Consultant  
Tory L Ferguson, Regulatory Board Administrative Assistant 2

**APPROVAL OF MARCH 26, 2014 MINUTES**

A motion to accept the minutes meeting was made by Mr. Hutsell and seconded by Dr. Brooks. Motion passed with a voice vote.

## RECOGNITION

Ms. Tidwell presented recognitions;

The first won was presented by Senator Josh Evans. Senator Evans recognized Jackie Wilkerson and presented a resolution to Mr. Wilkerson's son and daughter. Ms. Tidwell then recognized Dr. Eric Powell and informed the Board that he was given another honor; Dr. Powell has been named the newest visiting professor to the United States Army War College Center of Strategic Leadership and Development. Dr. Powell asked that Tim Strange and Walter State be recognized as well. Mr. Sutton asked to have a moment of silence to honor two fallen EMT's.

Dr. Smith asked the audience if they would like to make a Public Comment to fill out the slip of paper and put it in the box.

## REPORT FROM THE OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL

### *Conflict of Interest Policy*

Mr. Keith Hodges, Legal Counsel reviewed with the Board the conflict of interest policy.

### *General Counsel Report*

Mr. Hodges reported on the number of open cases in his office. Mr. Hodges reported on the status of the ambulance service and immunizations rules. Mr. Hodges reported that the Equipment Rules have been sent back to his Office by the Attorney General (AG). Ms. Hodges asked the Board to look at the two Legislative proposals. Ms. Tidwell explained the reason for the change and why they needed to change it.

## REPORT FROM TENNESSEE PROFESSIONAL ASSISTANCE Program (TnPAP)

Mike Harkreader presented the TnPAP report to the Board. Dr. Smith asked how the numbers compare to previous years; Mr. Harkreader stated that the numbers were down. Mr. Sutton asked if he could get a copy of the contract.

## CONSENT ORDER

### *Respondent: Cynthia E. Chaffin, EMT-IV, License 38451, Algood, TN*

Dr. Smith recused and asked Mr. Hutsell to sit in as Chair.

On or about May 1, 2013, Algood Fire and Putnam County EMS were dispatched on a 911 call involving an unconscious and unresponsive female patient. The now-former deputy chief for Algood Fire arrived on the scene first, followed by Putnam County EMS, then Respondent. On or about the same day, Respondent completed a run report that stated that, when Respondent arrived on the scene, Putnam County EMS had already loaded the patient on a cot on the front porch of the patient's residence. On or about May 21, 2013, Respondent filed a "corrected report," which suggested that Respondent had somehow witnessed the now-former deputy chief for Algood Fire administering CPR to the patient prior to her arrival. Respondent is the stepdaughter of the now-former deputy chief.

For the purpose of avoiding further administrative action with respect to this cause, the Respondent agrees to the **REPRIMAND** of her EMT-IV license and to the **PROBATION** of said license, with lifting of said probation to be conditional on the following:

- a. Respondent must complete a three (3) hour, online EMS Ethics course. Said course must be

approved by the Office prior to taking, and must be completed within sixty (6) days of the ratification of this Order.

- b. Respondent must be retrained on the subject of documentation by Putnam County EMS, or by another Office-approved training provider, within sixty (60) days of the ratification of this Order.

When the Office determines that Respondent has satisfied the aforementioned conditions, the **PROBATION** of Respondent's license will be lifted without further Board action.

Motion to accept the **CONSENT ORDER** as written was made by Mr. Bell and seconded by Mr. Mitchell.

Tim Bell-Aye  
Chris Brooks-Aye  
Jeff Davis-Aye  
Kappu Deshpande-Aye  
Larry Hutsell (stand in Chair)-Aye  
Kevin Mitchell-Aye  
Motion passed.

James Ross-Absent  
Stephen Sutton-No  
Robert Thurman-Aye  
Robert Webb-Absent  
Tyler White-Aye  
Dr. Sullivan Smith-Rescue

***Respondent: Michael K. Culling, EMT-P License 13589, Murfreesboro, TN***

In or around March 2013, Respondent diverted prescription pain medication from his employer, Middle Tennessee Medical Center. Upon being suspected of the diversion, Respondent underwent a drug test, which was positive for the diverted pain medication. Respondent was terminated as a result of the positive drug test. There was no known patient harm as a result of Respondent's actions.

For the purpose of avoiding further administrative action with respect to this cause, the Respondent agrees to the **SUSPENSION** of Respondent's license to practice as an EMT-P, effective immediately upon ratification of this Consent Order by the Board. Respondent agrees to undergo an evaluation with the TnPAP. Should the evaluation recommend a contract with TnPAP, Respondent agrees to sign a contract with them at which time the **SUSPENSION** will automatically be lifted and the Respondent's license will be placed on **PROBATION**. The probationary period of Respondent's license will run concurrent with said TnPAP contract, and will continue until such time as Respondent complies with each and every term of the contract. Should Respondent's contract with TnPAP be extended, the term of probation of Respondent's license will also be extended for the new term. Respondent agrees to complete his TnPAP contract requirements and agrees that any violation of said contract will constitute a violation of this Order. Should the evaluation not recommend a contract with TnPAP, the **SUSPENSION** of the Respondent's license be lifted and the Respondent's license will be placed on **PROBATION** for a period of no less than three (3) years.

Motion to accept the **CONSENT ORDER** as written was Mr. Mitchell and seconded by Mr. Thurman.

Tim Bell-Aye  
Chris Brooks-Aye  
Jeff Davis-Aye  
Kappu Deshpande-Aye  
Larry Hutsell-No  
Kevin Mitchell-Aye  
Motion passed.

James Ross-Absent  
Stephen Sutton-Aye  
Robert Thurman-Aye  
Robert Webb-Absent  
Tyler White-Aye  
Dr. Sullivan Smith-Aye

***Respondent: Joseph E. Robinson, EMT-IV License 26428, Millington, TN***

In or around August 2013, Respondent's employer received an anonymous complaint that Respondent was possibly buying and using illegal drugs while on duty. As a result of the complaint, Respondent's employer instructed him to submit to drug screening, as required by the terms of his employment. On Or about August 8, 2013, Respondent submitted a sample for drug screening, which later tested positive for cocaine. No known patient harm as a result of Respondent's actions.

For the purpose of avoiding further administrative action with respect to this cause, the Respondent agrees to the **SUSPENSION** of Respondent's license to practice as an EMT-IV in the state of Tennessee, to be effective immediately upon ratification of this Order. Respondent agrees to undergo an evaluation with the TnPAP. Should the evaluation recommend a contract with TnPAP, Respondent agrees to sign a contract with them at which time the **SUSPENSION** will automatically be lifted and the Respondent's license will be placed on **PROBATION**. The probationary period of Respondent's license will run concurrent with said TnPAP contract, and will continue until such time as Respondent complies with each and every term of the contract. Should Respondent's contract with TnPAP be extended, the term of probation of Respondent's license will also be extended for the new term. Respondent agrees to complete his TnPAP contract requirements and agrees that any violation of said contract will constitute a violation of this Order. Should the evaluation not recommend a contract with TnPAP, the **SUSPENSION** of the Respondent's license be lifted and the Respondent's license will be placed on **PROBATION** for a period of no less than three (3) years.

Motioned to accept the **CONSENT ORDER** as presented was made by Dr. Brooks and seconded by Mr. Sutton.

Tim Bell-Aye  
Chris Brooks-Aye  
Jeff Davis-Aye  
Kappu Deshpande-Aye  
Larry Hutsell-No  
Kevin Mitchell-Aye  
Motion passed.

James Ross-Absent  
Stephen Sutton-Aye  
Robert Thurman-Aye  
Robert Webb-Absent  
Tyler White-Aye  
Dr. Sullivan Smith-No

#### **AGREED ORDER**

***Respondent: Michael W. Baltz, EMT-P License 24992, Mount Juliet, TN***

Ms. Deshpande recused.

From about August 12, 2013 to November 21, 2013, Respondent attempted to use his position of authority as an EMT-P Instructor/Coordinator to pressure one of his students into selling him her prescription medication, Tramadol, for his personal use.

For the purpose of avoiding further administrative action with respect to this cause, Respondent agrees to the **VOLUNTARY SURRENDER** of his authorization to be an EMT-P Instructor/Coordinator. Said **VOLUNTARY SURRENDER** shall have the same legal force and effect as a **REVOCATION**. Respondent agrees to the **SUSPENSION** of his license to practice as an EMT-P in the state of Tennessee, to be effective immediately upon ratification of this Order. Respondent agrees to undergo an evaluation with the TnPAP. Should the evaluation recommend a contract with TnPAP, Respondent agrees to sign a contract with them at which time the **SUSPENSION** will automatically be lifted and the Respondent's license will be placed on **PROBATION**. The probationary period of Respondent's license will run

concurrent with said TnPAP contract, and will continue until such time as Respondent complies with each and every term of the contract. Should Respondent's contract with TnPAP be extended, the term of probation of Respondent's license will also be extended for the new term. Respondent agrees to complete his TnPAP contract requirements and agrees that any violation of said contract will constitute a violation of this Order. Should the evaluation not recommend a contract with TnPAP, the **SUSPENSION** of the Respondent's license be lifted and the Respondent's license will be placed on **PROBATION** for a period of no less than three (3) years.

The aforementioned: **VOLUNTARY SURRENDER, SUSPENSION AND PROBATION** are formal disciplinary actions that will be reported to the Health Integrity and Protection Data Bank (HIPDB).

Mr. Sutton motioned to accept the **AGREED ORDER** as written. Mr. Mitchell seconded.

Tim Bell-Aye  
Chris Brooks-Aye  
Jeff Davis-Aye  
Kappu Deshpande-Recuse  
Larry Hutsell-No  
Kevin Mitchell-Aye  
Motion passed.

James Ross-Absent  
Stephen Sutton-Aye  
Robert Thurman-Aye  
Robert Webb-Absent  
Tyler White-Aye  
Dr. Sullivan Smith-Aye

#### **CONSENT ORDER**

*Respondent: Cristina Coleman McIntyre, aka Cristina A. Coleman, EMT-P license 31755, Memphis, TN*

Respondent withdrew controlled substances while employed at Saint Francis Hospital without orders, withdrew amounts of controlled substances in excess of what was ordered, did not properly waste controlled substances, and withdrew controlled substances for patients she was not assigned to care for. Respondent was not known to have been practicing as an EMT-P during the aforementioned period, and there was no known patient harm as a result of Respondent's actions. As the result of an Order by the Tennessee board of Nursing, Respondent's license to practice as a Registered Nurse (RN) in the state of Tennessee has been placed on probation. Under the terms of the Order, said probation will run concurrent with the five (5) year monitoring contract Respondent signed with the TnPAP which became effective August 20, 2013, and will continue until such time as Respondent complies with each and every term of said contract. Should Respondent's contract with TnPAP be extended, the probation of Respondent's license will also be extended for the new term of said contract.

For the purpose of avoiding further administrative action with respect to this cause, Respondent agrees to the **PROBATION** of her EMT-P license in the state of Tennessee to run concurrent with Respondent's current TnPAP contract. Respondent further agrees that said probation shall continue until such time as Respondent complies with each and every term of said contract, and that , should Respondent's contract with TnPAP be extended, the probation of Respondents EMT-P will also be extended for the new term of said contract. Finally, Respondent agrees that any violation of said contract will constitute a violation of this Order and be grounds for further discipline.

Motion was made by Ms. Deshpande to accept the **CONSENT ORDER** as written. Mr. Davis seconded.

Tim Bell-Aye  
Chris Brooks-Aye  
Jeff Davis-Aye  
Kappu Deshpande-Aye  
Motion passed.

Larry Hutsell-Aye  
Kevin Mitchell-Aye  
James Ross-Absent  
Stephen Sutton-Aye

Robert Thurman-Aye  
Robert Webb-Absent  
Tyler White-Aye  
Dr. Sullivan Smith-Aye

***Respondent: Graham L. Morris, EMT-IV License 40683, Collierville, TN***

In or around November 2013, Respondent applied for a job as an EMT-IV with Emergency Mobile Health Care (EMHC) in Memphis, Tennessee. As part of EMHC's pre-employment requirements, Respondent submitted a sample for drug screening, which later tested positive for marijuana.

For the purpose of avoiding further administrative action with respect to this cause, Respondent agrees to the **SUSPENSION** of her EMT-IV license in the state of Tennessee, to be effective immediately upon ratification of this Order. Respondent agrees to undergo an evaluation with the TnPAP. Should the evaluation recommend a contract with TnPAP, Respondent agrees to sign a contract with them at which time the **SUSPENSION** will automatically be lifted and the Respondent's license will be placed on **PROBATION**. The probationary period of Respondent's license will run concurrent with said TnPAP contract, and will continue until such time as Respondent complies with each and every term of the contract. Should Respondent's contract with TnPAP be extended, the term of probation of Respondent's license will also be extended for the new term. Respondent agrees to complete his TnPAP contract requirements and agrees that any violation of said contract will constitute a violation of this Order. Should the evaluation not recommend a contract with TnPAP, the **SUSPENSION** of the Respondent's license be lifted and the Respondent's license will be placed on **PROBATION** for a period of no less than three (3) years.

Mr. Mitchell motioned to accept the **CONSENT ORDER** as written. Mr. White seconded.

Tim Bell-Aye  
Chris Brooks-Aye  
Jeff Davis-Aye  
Kappu Deshpande-Aye  
Larry Hutsell-Aye  
Kevin Mitchell-Aye  
Motion passed.

James Ross-Absent  
Stephen Sutton-Aye  
Robert Thurman-Aye  
Robert Webb-Absent  
Tyler White-Aye  
Dr. Sullivan Smith-Aye

***Respondent: Stacey J. Bonner, EMT-P license 26320, McMinnville, TN***

Respondent on more than one occasion while employed as an EMT-P with DeKalb county EMS or Coffee County EMS, Respondent reported to work while under the influence of alcohol.

For the purpose of avoiding further administrative action with respect to this cause, Respondent agrees to the **SUSPENSION** of her EMT-P license in the state of Tennessee, to be effective immediately upon ratification of this Order. Respondent agrees to undergo an evaluation with the TnPAP. Should the evaluation recommend a contract with TnPAP, Respondent agrees to sign a contract with them at which time the **SUSPENSION** will automatically be lifted and the Respondent's license will be placed on **PROBATION**. The probationary period of Respondent's license will run concurrent with said TnPAP contract, and will continue until such time as Respondent complies with each and every term of the contract. Should Respondent's contract with TnPAP be extended, the term of probation of Respondent's license will also be extended for the new term. Respondent agrees to complete his TnPAP contract requirements and agrees that any violation of said contract will constitute a violation of this Order. Should the evaluation not recommend a contract with TnPAP, the **SUSPENSION** of the Respondent's license be lifted and the Respondent's license will be placed on **PROBATION** for a period of no less than three (3) years.

Mr. Sutton motioned to accept the **CONSENT ORDER** as written. Dr. Brook seconded.

Tim Bell-Aye  
Chris Brooks-Aye  
Jeff Davis-Aye  
Kappu Deshpande-Aye  
Larry Hutsell-Aye  
Kevin Mitchell-Aye  
Motion passed.

James Ross-Absent  
Stephen Sutton-Aye  
Robert Thurman-Aye  
Robert Webb-Absent  
Tyler White-Aye  
Dr. Sullivan Smith-Aye

### **CONTESTED CASES**

The honorable Mattielyn B. Williams is presiding the hearing. Judge Williams went over the dockets they will be hearing today and read a statement for the Board.

Judge Williams called the first case to order.

***Respondent: Rome R. Gregory, EMT-IV license 28692, Memphis, TN***

Judge Williams called for the next case, Rome R. Gregory. Judge Williams asked if Mr. Gregory or if anyone else there on Mr. Gregory's behalf, no one was there. Judge Williams asked Mr. Hodges what attempt he made to contact Mr. Gregory and Mr. Hodges showed proof. Judge Williams stated that the Board had to decide if they wanted to hear the case by default.

Mr. Davis motioned to hear the case in default. Mr. Mitchell seconded.

Tim Bell-Aye  
Chris Brooks-Aye  
Jeff Davis-Aye  
Kappu Deshpande-Aye  
Larry Hutsell-Aye  
Kevin Mitchell-Aye  
Motion passed.

James Ross-Absent  
Stephen Sutton-Aye  
Robert Thurman-Aye  
Robert Webb-Absent  
Tyler White-Aye  
Dr. Sullivan Smith-Aye

On February 11, 2011, Respondent signed a Consent Order in which he agreed to the suspension of his EMT-IV license, followed by three (3) years' probation. Under the terms of the probation, Respondent was required to be evaluated by the TnPAP and to sign a monitoring contract if one was recommended by TnPAP. Respondent further agreed in the consent Order that he would "complete his TnPAP contract requirements" and that a "violation of said Contract will constitute a violation of this Order." On March 30, 2011, the Board ratified the Consent Order signed by Respondent. On or about September 7, 2012, Respondent entered into a monitoring contract with TnPAP. On or about July 3, 2013. The Department received notice from TnPAP that it was no longer advocating for the Respondent due to Respondent's failure to comply with its monitoring contract requirements.

The State is recommending that Respondents EMT-IV license to be **REVOKED**, effective the date of this Order. This is a formal disciplinary action and will be reported to the HIPDB and/or similar agency.

### **Finding of Facts**

Mr. Mitchell motioned to accept the **Finding of Facts** present in the order numbers one (1), two (2), three (3), four (4), and five (5); with an amendment to the date to say February 3, 2011 in number one (1). Mr.

Davis seconded.

Tim Bell-Aye  
Chris Brooks-Aye  
Jeff Davis-Aye  
Kappu Deshpande-Aye  
Larry Hutsell-Aye  
Kevin Mitchell-Aye  
Motion passed.

James Ross-Absent  
Stephen Sutton-Aye  
Robert Thurman-Aye  
Robert Webb-Absent  
Tyler White-Aye  
Dr. Sullivan Smith-Aye

### **Conclusions of Law**

Mr. Mitchell motioned to accept the **Conclusions of Law** based on the **Finding of Facts** number two (2).  
Dr. Brooks seconded.

Tim Bell-Aye  
Chris Brooks-Aye  
Jeff Davis-Aye  
Kappu Deshpande-Aye  
Larry Hutsell-Aye  
Kevin Mitchell-Aye  
Motion passed.

James Ross-Absent  
Stephen Sutton-Aye  
Robert Thurman-Aye  
Robert Webb-Absent  
Tyler White-Aye  
Dr. Sullivan Smith-Aye

### **Discipline/Action**

Mr. Davis motioned for the Respondents license to be **REVOKED**. Mr. Sutton seconded.

Tim Bell-Aye  
Chris Brooks-Aye  
Jeff Davis-Aye  
Kappu Deshpande-Aye  
Larry Hutsell-Aye  
Kevin Mitchell-Aye  
Motion passed.

James Ross-Absent  
Stephen Sutton-Aye  
Robert Thurman-Aye  
Robert Webb-Absent  
Tyler White-Aye  
Dr. Sullivan Smith-Aye

### **Policy Statement**

Mr. Bell read a policy statement that was as follows:

*“Whereas, it is the policy of the Tennessee Emergency Medical Services Board to require strict compliance with the laws of this State and apply the laws as to preserve the quality of Emergency Medical Services provided in Tennessee; and  
Whereas, sufficient proof has been developed by the State, which is clear, and concise; and  
Whereas, The Emergency Medical Services Board cannot condone nor endorse personnel violating Tennessee State Laws, or for violating the Tennessee Emergency Medical Services Practice act, or orders of this Board.”*

Mr. Davis motioned to accept the **Policy Statement** Mr. Bell read. Mr. Mitchell seconded.



Tim Bell-Aye  
Chris Brooks-Aye  
Jeff Davis-Aye  
Kappu Deshpande-Aye  
Larry Hutsell-Aye  
Kevin Mitchell-Aye  
Motion passed.

James Ross-Absent  
Stephen Sutton-Aye  
Robert Thurman-Aye  
Robert Webb-Absent  
Tyler White-Aye  
Dr. Sullivan Smith-Aye

***Respondent: Timothy J. Thrift, EMT-IV license 35530, Kingsport, TN***

Judge Williams called for the next case, Timothy Thrift. Judge Williams asked if Mr. Thrift or if anyone was there on Mr. Thrift's behalf, no one was there. Judge Williams asked Mr. Hodges what attempt he made to contact Mr. Thrift and Mr. Hodges showed proof. Judge Williams stated that the Board had to decide if they wanted to hear the case by default.

Dr. Brooks motioned to hold the case in default. Mr. Hutsell seconded.

Tim Bell-Aye  
Chris Brooks-Aye  
Jeff Davis-Aye  
Kappu Deshpande-Aye  
Larry Hutsell-Aye  
Kevin Mitchell-Aye  
Motion passed.

James Ross-Absent  
Stephen Sutton-Aye  
Robert Thurman-Aye  
Robert Webb-Absent  
Tyler White-Aye  
Dr. Sullivan Smith-Aye

On or about December 3, 2012, Respondent submitted to a random drug screen as required by his employer, church Hill EMS. The results from the drug screen showed that the Respondent tested positive for cannabinoids.

The State is recommending that Respondents EMT-IV license to be **REVOKED**, effective the date of this Order. This is a formal disciplinary action and will be reported to the HIPDB and/or similar agency.

**Finding of Facts**

Mr. Sutton motioned to accept the **Finding of Facts** as stated in numbers one (1), two (2) and three (3). Mr. Mitchell seconded.

Tim Bell-Aye  
Chris Brooks-Aye  
Jeff Davis-Aye  
Kappu Deshpande-Aye  
Larry Hutsell-Aye  
Kevin Mitchell-Aye  
Motion passed.

James Ross-Absent  
Stephen Sutton-Aye  
Robert Thurman-Aye  
Robert Webb-Absent  
Tyler White-Aye  
Dr. Sullivan Smith-Aye

**Conclusions of Law**

Mr. Davis motioned to accept the **Conclusions of Law** Roman Numeral II. Ms. Deshpande seconded.

Tim Bell-Aye  
Chris Brooks-Aye  
Jeff Davis-Aye  
Kappu Deshpande-Aye  
Larry Hutsell-Aye  
Kevin Mitchell-Aye  
Motion passed.

James Ross-Absent  
Stephen Sutton-Aye  
Robert Thurman-Aye  
Robert Webb-Absent  
Tyler White-Aye  
Dr. Sullivan Smith-Aye

### **Discipline/Action**

Mr. Bell motioned for the Respondents license to be **REVOKED**. Mr. Davis seconded.

Tim Bell-Aye  
Chris Brooks-Aye  
Jeff Davis-Aye  
Kappu Deshpande-Aye  
Larry Hutsell-Aye  
Kevin Mitchell-Aye  
Motion passed.

James Ross-Absent  
Stephen Sutton-Aye  
Robert Thurman-Aye  
Robert Webb-Absent  
Tyler White-Aye  
Dr. Sullivan Smith-Aye

### **Policy Statement**

Mr. Bell read and motioned to accept the following **Policy Statement**:

*“Whereas, it is the policy of the Tennessee Emergency Medical Services Board to require strict compliance with the laws of this State and apply the laws as to preserve the quality of Emergency Medical Services provided in Tennessee; and  
Whereas, sufficient proof has been developed by the State, which is clear, concise and convincing that the respondent in this case has violated previous orders of the Tennessee EMS Board; and  
Whereas, The Emergency Medical Services Board does not condone emergency medical personnel failing to comply with rules, regulations, or orders of the Board or for violating Tennessee State Law, or for violating Laws from other States, or for violating Federal Laws; and  
Whereas, The Emergency Medical Services Board cannot condone nor endorse personnel violating Tennessee State Laws, or for violating the Tennessee Emergency Medical Services Practice act, or orders of this Board; and  
Whereas, it is necessary that we take the actions in this case that we have taken today.”*

Mr. Davis seconded.

Tim Bell-Aye  
Chris Brooks-Aye  
Jeff Davis-Aye  
Kappu Deshpande-Aye  
Larry Hutsell-Aye  
Kevin Mitchell-Aye  
Motion passed.

James Ross-Absent  
Stephen Sutton-Aye  
Robert Thurman-Aye  
Robert Webb-Absent  
Tyler White-Aye  
Dr. Sullivan Smith-Aye

This concludes the **Contested Cases**. Judge Williams was thanked for her time.

## CONSENT ORDER

**Respondent: Geoffrey A. Alford, EMT-IV License 36163, Cosby, TN**

On or about March 8, 2012, Respondent pleaded guilty to Aggravated Animal Cruelty, a Class E felony, in Cocke County Circuit court. He was granted judicial diversion, ordered to pay restitution and costs, and placed on probation for one (1) year, with conditions. Respondent was not on duty at the time of the events in question and there was not patient harm as the result of this acts or omissions.

For the purpose of avoiding further administrative action with respect to this cause, Respondent agrees the **REPRIMAND** of his EMT-IV license and to have such license placed on **PROBATION** for a period of one (1) year, to be effective immediately upon ratification of this Consent Order by the Board.

Mr. Hutsell motioned to accept the **Consent Order** as written. Mr. Mitchell seconded.

Tim Bell-Aye  
Chris Brooks-Aye  
Jeff Davis-Aye  
Kappu Deshpande-Aye  
Larry Hutsell-Aye  
Kevin Mitchell-Aye  
Motion passed.

James Ross-Absent  
Stephen Sutton-Aye  
Robert Thurman-Aye  
Robert Webb-Absent  
Tyler White-Aye  
Dr. Sullivan Smith-Aye

**Respondent: Ronald E. Bielling, III, EMT-P License 36488, McMinnville, TN**

In or around September 2012, Respondent was suspected by his employer of being under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol while on duty. As a result of this suspicion, Respondent's employer instructed him to submit to drug testing, as required by the terms of his employment. On or about September 13, 2012, Respondent refused to submit to drug testing, and refused to submit to drug testing again the following day after an initial test sample was rejected. On or about September 14, 2012, Respondent was terminated from his employment with Coffee County EMS for violating its substance abuse policy.

For the purpose of avoiding further administrative action with respect to this cause, Respondent agrees to the **SUSPENSION** of her EMT-P license in the state of Tennessee, to be effective immediately upon ratification of this Order. Respondent agrees to undergo an evaluation with the TnPAP. Should the evaluation recommend a contract with TnPAP, Respondent agrees to sign a contract with them at which time the **SUSPENSION** will automatically be lifted and the Respondent's license will be placed on **PROBATION**. The probationary period of Respondent's license will run concurrent with said TnPAP contract, and will continue until such time as Respondent complies with each and every term of the contract. Should Respondent's contract with TnPAP be extended, the term of probation of Respondent's license will also be extended for the new term. Respondent agrees to complete his TnPAP contract requirements and agrees that any violation of said contract will constitute a violation of this Order. Should the evaluation not recommend a contract with TnPAP, the **SUSPENSION** of the Respondent's license be lifted and the Respondent's license will be placed on **PROBATION** for a period of no less than three (3) years.

## APPLICANT APPROVAL

**Applicant: Miguel Castro, Initial EMR, Brownsville, TN**

Mr. Castro came before the Board to get his Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) initial application approved. The Board looked over Mr. Castro application and background check. Mr. Castro passed out two (2) letters from Captain Brian Bowers and Captain Scott Foust, both from Jackson Fire Department, recommending his application be approved. The Board then asked question and asked Mr. Castro to explain in his own words as to what happened.

Mr. Mitchell motioned to approve Mr. Castro Initial EMR application. Mr. Thurman seconded.

Tim Bell-Aye  
Chris Brooks-Aye  
Jeff Davis-Aye  
Kappu Deshpande-Aye  
Larry Hutsell-Aye  
Kevin Mitchell-Aye  
Motion passed.

James Ross-Absent  
Stephen Sutton-Aye  
Robert Thurman-Aye  
Robert Webb-Absent  
Tyler White-Aye  
Dr. Sullivan Smith-Aye

***Applicant: Tara Clark, Initial EMT-IV, Cleveland, TN***

Ms. Clark came before the Board to ask that her initial Emergency Medical Technician IV (EMT-IV) application be approved. The Board looked over her application and background check. The Board then asked question and asked Ms. Clark to explain in her own words as to what happened. The Board then asked if she had anybody to speak on her behalf. Ms. Clark's husband came before the Board to speak on her behalf.

Mr. Bell motioned to approve Ms. Clark's initial EMT-IV application. Mr. Mitchell seconded.

Tim Bell-Aye  
Chris Brooks-Aye  
Jeff Davis-Aye  
Kappu Deshpande-Aye  
Larry Hutsell-Aye  
Kevin Mitchell-Aye  
Motion passed.

James Ross-Absent  
Stephen Sutton-Aye  
Robert Thurman-Aye  
Robert Webb-Absent  
Tyler White-Aye  
Dr. Sullivan Smith-Aye

***Applicant: Matthew E. Dillman, Initial EMT-IV, Crossville, TN***

Dr. Smith recused and asked Mr. Mitchell to set in as Chair.

Mr. Dillman came before the Board to ask that his initial EMT-IV application be approved. The Board looked over Mr. Dillman application, background check and letters of recommendation. The Board then asked question and asked Mr. Dillman to explain in his own words as to what happened.

Mr. Hutsell motioned to approve Mr. Dillman initial EMT-IV application. Mr. Bell seconded.

Tim Bell-Aye  
Chris Brooks-Aye  
Jeff Davis-Aye  
Kappu Deshpande-Aye  
Larry Hutsell-Aye  
Kevin Mitchell (stand in Chair)-Aye  
Motion passed.

James Ross-Absent  
Stephen Sutton-Aye  
Robert Thurman-Aye  
Robert Webb-Absent  
Tyler White-Aye  
Dr. Sullivan Smith-Rescue

There was some question on how far back a background check should go and Ms. Tidwell suggested that they put a time from on how far back they look at.

Mr. Hutsell motioned to put a time from on how far back a background check should be looked at. Mr. Sutton seconded. Motion was approved by a voice vote.

## **SCHOOL APPROVAL**

The Board was presented with one (1) school for an initial AEMT Program approval. Ms. Tidwell requested the board to review the site visit report for Nashville Fire Department. Ms. Tidwell reported the Office would recommend initial approval for Nashville Fire Department AEMT Program.

Mr. Davis motioned to accept the approval of Nashville Fire Department AEMT Program. Mr. Thurman seconded. Motion was approved with a voice vote.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### *Air Ambulance Committee*

Mr. Robert Byrd report the Air Ambulance Committee was reviewing some things and may be able to present it to the Board in September could be December with some recommendations. Mr. Byrd stated that they are going to recommend the Kames temperature guidelines as a Tennessee EMS policy, this is already being done. Mr. Byrd went over the Air Medical Workshop and stated that it was a very large undertaking of responding to a disaster. Mr. Byrd stated that they have formed a Sub-Committee of pilots to look at the helipads; they are going to look to make sure they are safe. They will come back to the Committee with some recommendation to present to the Board. They have another Sub-Committee to look at the air ambulance equipment list to see if they cannot marry the fixed wing and the rotary wing equipment together.

### *Clinical Issues Committee (CIC)*

Dr. Holley came before the Board to give a CIC report. The Committee talked about the cyanide antidote and who should be able to give it. The Committee stated it should remain an ALS drug. There will be a small Sub-Committee put together to look at the Trauma Destination Guidelines to be able to expand them and then be brought before the Board. Dr. Holley passed out a paper on the Hemorrhage Clamp and stated that they felt that the EMR level should be able to use this.

Mr. Sutton motioned to allow the EMR level to use the Hemorrhage Clamp. Mr. Mitchell seconded. Motion carried with a voice vote.

The CIC was asked to look at the e-cigarettes and if they should be treated as any other tobacco product. The Committee felt it should and the Board to make a motion and approve it.

Mr. Mitchell motioned to treat e-cigarettes like any other tobacco product. Mr. Hutsell seconded. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Dr. Holley talked a little about the Intergraded Mobile Healthcare. Dr. Holley told the board that he has been to the State Medical Board regarding the EMS Medical Director. The State Medical Board has no rules for the EMS Medical Director and Dr. Holley has purposed some ideas for some basic rules.

The EMS Medical Director Conference will be held at another date and they will be informed when a date has been set.

### *Disciplinary Committee*

Mr. Mitchell reported the Committee had one item they were tasked to look at, to make a policy about

practicing on an expired license. The Committee has brought before the Board a policy they have come up with on this subject. This policy ensures issuance of licenses for personnel is in accordance with the regulations promulgated by the EMS Board and conditions such issuances as may be necessary. Mr. Mitchell asked the Board to approve this policy.

Ms. Deshpande motioned to accept the policy the Committee has brought before them. Mr. Sutton seconded. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Mr. Mitchell told the Board that this Committee believes that they have completed all the task the Board has asked them to and request that this Committee be Sunset.

Mr. Hutsell motioned to Sunset the Disciplinary Committee. Ms. Deshpande seconded. Motion carried with a voice vote.

### ***Education Committee***

Ms. Tidwell went over the current number of people that are in the AEMT transaction course. Ms. Tidwell they went over what would need to be taken out of the stated practical now that we accept Basic EMT's. Ms. Tidwell went over the pass rate for each program. Ms. Tidwell stated that the AEMT program will be left out of the annual pass rate for schools till the year 2016. Ms. Tidwell stated that they will be doing a full site visit to two schools for final approval, Chattanooga State and Northeast State.

### ***Mechanical Credentials Task Force***

Mr. Hamby came before the Board and talked about what this Committee was brought to do. They were brought together to recommend what level certification a mechanic can have to fulfill the rule requirement. Mr. Hamby asked the Board to look over the motion statement that was passed out. Mr. Hamby stated that these levels of certification is what this Committee has come up with that will satisfy Rule 1200-01-.02(1) (n) 2. Mr. Hamby asked the Board to approve this motion statement.

Mr. Sutton motioned to approve the motion statement presented to them on the Mechanical Credential. Mr. Hutsell seconded. Motion passed with a voice vote.

Lynn Thompson came before the Board and stated that the motion statement will help out the littler Counties out.

## **DIRECTORS REPORT**

Ms. Tidwell presented the Annual statistical report for EMS as of April 2014. She reviewed the National Registry for the first quarter and the last quarter.

Ms. Tidwell stated that they participated in the TNCAT 2014. They tested the trigger points and were given an exercise message that there was an earthquake in Memphis. They spent all day going over the trigger points; they also tested the ambulance strike team mobilization state wide. Ms. Tidwell stated she attended a meeting in Mississippi with the NEMSO to discuss common problem that they have and how they can help across state lines in a disaster. They have also disused the distance learning program. Tennessee is being used as a model because of our rules. Ms. Tidwell went over what the schools have to have to be able to come to Tennessee. Ms. Tidwell stated that they have moved Mr. Cook to the Region 4 consultant and are just waiting for approval for the roaming consultant. There will be another strike team workshop at the fire academy and a follow up air medical workshop when they can find the time. Ms.

Tidwell let the Board know that Southeastern Institute has closed and pulled all there programs in Tennessee and COA has been notified. Ms. Tidwell told the Board that we are in hurricane season and Tennessee has signed an MOU for evacuee if need be and are also on tap for medical patients.

Ms. Tidwell stated that the Mobile Integrated Healthcare Task Force will be meeting again. They are hoping to be able to move forward with this soon. They are also working on making an alter standards in a disaster. It has moved from calling an alter standards to crisis standards.

Ms. Tidwell let the Board know when the TEMSA Conference is.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Dr. Smith asked Ms. Tidwell to check and see if anyone asked to make a Public Comment. There was none.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Dr. Smith asked if there was any old business for the Board. Mr. Mitchell stated he would like to know about filing a complaint and the process and time frame of that complaint. Mr. Hodges answered the question and asked to be able to look into it.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Sutton asked about the living condition of an ambulance service. Mr. Sutton stated that the Service was a primary 911 service and are housing there employees in a trailers. Mr. Sutton asked if the Ambulance Service Committee could look at this and see what they can do. Mr. Hodges stated that they have not legal jurisdiction over living conditions. Mr. Ward gave and explanation of what a base of operation was.

Mr. Hutsell asked if we are in line with other Boards on how we conduct investigation. Ms. Tidwell explained what the process is for a complaint that is filed. If the complaint is a serious one it is immediately sent out to the Consultant. Mr. Hutsell asked Mr. Hodges what would be a case that would cause them to take immediate action. Mr. Hodges explained the process and what would be able to take immediate action. Mr. White asked if they could do anything that would get the cases to the Board faster. Dr. Smith stated that the end result is always the same; it is a dew process to the law. Ms. Tidwell went over the process that the Office has to go through and it could be some time after the incident happens before we get the complaint.

Mr. Sutton asked about moving an ambulance form one Region to another Region. Ms. Tidwell stated that there is a regulation for a service to borrow a unit for fifteen (15). They must tell the Consultant and they must inspect it. Ms. Tidwell then went over adding a new unit. Mr. Sutton asked if I moved it to another Service that I owned; I do not need to tell the Consultant. Ms. Tidwell stated that you could not you must let the Consultant know. Ms. Tidwell stated that it must be a mechanical problem in order to borrow the unit. Ms. Tidwell stated that if a service wanted to add the unit to another service that has no mechanical problems, you must drop the unit from the one service and add it to the new service.

## **BOARD RECOGNITION**

Ms. Tidwell came and recognized the Board members that are up for reappointment or are being replaced. Ms. Tidwell asked Mr. Bell, Mr. Davis, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Ross, and Mr. Thurman to please come forward. Ms. Tidwell read the recognition and thanked them for their service. Ms. Tidwell let them know

that if they are not reappointed they become part of the screening panel.

Ms. Tidwell let the Board know that the recommendation that they had for Motlow State's budget and to hire a Clinical Coordinator has been approved.

Dr. Smith let the Board know that the next board meeting will be September 26. Meeting was adjourned.