

Committee Minutes

Name of Board/Committee: Air Ambulance Committee Meeting

Date of Meeting: June 15, 2026

Time: 10:00 am CDT

Place: Poplar Room, First Floor

665 Mainstream Drive

Nashville, TN 37243

Members Present

- Robbie Tester
- Sheldon Dreaddy (proxy for Kevin Nooner)
- Johnathan Wood
- Tyler Thompson
- Dr. Frank Tift,
- Renee Jacobs
- Justin Andrews
- Cindy Bailey
- Matthew Owens

Members Absent

- Everyone was present

Staff Present

- Brian Tompkins
- Brandon Ward

1. Call to Order

- Presiding Officer: Matt Owens
- Time: 10:00 a.m. CST
- Introductions: Roll Call was done
- Quorum: A quorum was present

2. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve minutes from March 16, 2026, by Dr. Frank Tift with second by Cindy Bailey. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Committee Composition

Robbie Tester has left his position with LIFE FORCE Air Medical Service and thus may no longer serve on this committee. LIFE FORCE has recommended that Brian Ceraolo succeed him. There was a motion by Jonathan Wood, seconded by Cindy Bailey, to approve Mr Ceraolo as

our recommendation to the Oversight Committee as well. This motion passed unanimously and will be sent to the Oversight Committee.

Further discussion of committee composition related to other licensed air ambulance services in Tennessee is covered below in New Business.

4. Items from the Board

Specialty Transport:

It was proposed by the board that this committee take on the responsibility for specialty transport rules. This topic was initially discussed at the last meeting, and we agreed. Our assent was recognized by the Board and has been approved. They also allowed for the addition of two Ad Hoc committee members specifically for the discussions related to these Rules. There was then discussion regarding nominations and recommendations for those two positions. A few organizations were mentioned. Ultimately those interested should forward resumes / CVs to Mr Owens and/or the EMS Office to send to the Oversight Committee. This committee will also review those submitted and vote on our two recommendations.

5. Old Business

- **Air Medical Equipment and Supplies Specifications**

No new information on this topic. This list was simply awaiting approval of the new Rules and will now become active (see next point).

- **Update of Proposed Rule Changes**

The new Rules went before Government Operations last month and got a positive recommendation. They will be effective June 23, 2026.

6. New Business

- **Current Licensed Air Ambulance Agency Review**

There was discussion about ensuring that all Tennessee licensed air services are represented on this committee. One service noted to need representation is the Covenant-based service. Also, all licensed services in the state have the option to have representation here (e.g. services based in other states but also licensed in Tennessee), though attendance rules would still apply, and their presence on the committee is not required. Furthermore, their appointment to the committee would also be subject to the Oversight Committee's approval. Finally, the need to clarify whether multiple agencies working under the same parent company should allow individual committee members for each child agency or simply one for the parent company, and this discussion may need to be moved to the Oversight Committee.

It is also worth noting that if the committee gets too large, meeting with a quorum will become more difficult. The Oversight Committee should also clarify if there are a maximum number of committee members allowed, and if yes and if the number of services exceeds that number, then this committee might need to switch to a model of ensuring representative categories are included rather than individual services. Also note that services may come to the meeting and register public comment to have input without a formal place on the committee.



7. Adjournment

- Motion to Adjourn: Cindy Bailey
- Second: Justin Andrews
- Time of Adjournment: 10:39 a.m. CDT