



**Minutes of the
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES BOARD
Friday, February 3, 2023**

This special called emergency meeting of the Emergency Medical Services Board opened at 10:00 am in the Poplar Room, First Floor at The Tennessee Department of Health. Located at 665 Mainstream Drive, Nashville, Tennessee.

The purpose of this meeting was to consider emergency disciplinary actions on two individuals licensed by the department. This meeting was conducted permitting participation by electronic means of communication.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

At 10:05 a.m., Director Brandon Ward gave the opening statement explaining the roll call procedure to ensure each participant is connected to the meeting.

Director Ward proceeded to conduct an initial roll call with the results below. A quorum was established.					
Board Member's Name	Present	Absent	Board Member's Name	Present	Absent
Chair Dr. Sullivan Smith	X		Twila Rose	X	
Jeff Beaman	X		James Ross, RN	X	
Dr. Seth Brown		X	Dennis Rowe	X	
Greg Miller	X		Tim Strange	X	
Brad Phillips	X		Tyler White	X	
Randy Porter	X		Jeanne Yeatman, RN		X
Brian Robinson	X		11 Present; 2 Absent; A quorum was declared		

Those present for the meeting in-person:

- Dr. Sullivan Smith – EMS Board Chair
 - Brandon Ward, Director - Office of Emergency Medical Services
 - Hansel Cook, Assistant Director- Office of Emergency Medical Services
 - Jennifer Putnam, Assistant Commissioner - TDH
 - Tory Ferguson, Regulatory Board Administrative Assistant 3
 - Deputy General Counsel Matt Gibbs – Office of General Counsel
 - Dean Flener, Director, Communication & Media Relations – TDH
 - Bill Christian, Associate Director Communication & Media Relations – TDH
 - Russell Gupton, EMS Consultant At-Large
- There were no members of the public in the audience

Director Ward asked for responses from each participant of the call to ensure they could hear one another. Having all those present in person and on the call respond in the affirmative, it was determined that all members were able to listen and respond appropriately.					
Board Member's Name	Aye	Nay	Board Member's Name	Aye	Nay
Chair Dr. Sullivan Smith	X		Twila Rose	X	

Jeff Beaman	X		James Ross, RN	X	
Dr. Seth Brown	Absent		Dennis Rowe	X	
Greg Miller	X		Tim Strange	X	
Brad Phillips	X		Tyler White	X	
Randy Porter	X		Jeanne Yeatman, RN	Absent	
Brian Robinson	X		11 AYE; 2 Absent		

Director Ward asked all participants on the conference call to declare and identify anyone present with them in the location from which they were participating. All members indicated that no other persons were present with them at the location from which they were participating.

Director Ward stated that the purpose of the meeting was to conduct the essential disciplinary matter regarding the application for summary suspension of 2 respondents (AEMT license #209188 and EMT license #214076).

Director Ward requested a motion and a second if the Board agreed to conduct the electronic meeting regarding the matters previously mentioned. A motion was duly made by Dennis Rowe and properly seconded by Tyler White to proceed. The roll was called, and the motion passed					
Board Member's Name	Aye	Nay	Board Member's Name	Aye	Nay
Chair Dr. Sullivan Smith	X		Twila Rose	X	
Jeff Beaman	X		James Ross, RN	X	
Dr. Seth Brown	Absent		Dennis Rowe	X	
Greg Miller	X		Tim Strange	X	
Brad Phillips	X		Tyler White	X	
Randy Porter	X		Jeanne Yeatman, RN	Absent	
Brian Robinson	X		11 AYE; 0 NAY; 2 Absent – Motion Passed		

Director Ward announced that only certain matters were appropriate for an electronic meeting. He then requested a motion and a second if the members felt the meeting met the requirements as stated in TCA 844-108. A motion was duly made by Tim Strange and properly seconded by Randy Porter to proceed. The roll was called, and the motion passed.					
Board Member's Name	Aye	Nay	Board Member's Name	Aye	Nay
Chair Dr. Sullivan Smith	X		Twila Rose	X	
Jeff Beaman	X		James Ross, RN	X	
Dr. Seth Brown	Absent		Dennis Rowe	X	
Greg Miller	X		Tim Strange	X	
Brad Phillips	X		Tyler White	X	
Randy Porter	X		Jeanne Yeatman, RN	Absent	
Brian Robinson	X		11 AYE; 0 NAY; 2 Absent – Motion Passed		

The members were informed that all voting during the session would be conducted by roll call. Furthermore, all members were to keep microphones muted until ready to speak and to identify themselves upon speaking. The meeting was then turned over to Deputy General Counsel Matthew Gibbs of the Office of General Counsel.

Mr. Gibbs provided an introduction of the proposed summary action on AEMT JaMichael Sandridge (License # 135438) and EMT Robert Long (License # 214076). A video spanning approximately 19 minutes was provided for the Board members in attendance. This video was obtained from a “Sky Cop” camera above the scene of the incident on January 7, 2023. The video provided real-time camera footage of the scene of the incident in question, along with an affidavit from Memphis Fire Department Assistant Chief Angie Sullivan.

At the conclusion of the video, Mr. Gibbs assured that all members continued to be present and were able to hear him speaking again. He then provided a synopsis of the approximately 19-minute video, citing allegations contended by the state against the respondents that appropriate care was not rendered to the patient in their care based on accepted practice.

A proposed order for summary action was presented to the Board members. They were asked to deliberate about each respondent individually and to explain what actions were found to be inappropriate if any.

Dr. Smith asked the members to take up Findings of Fact for AEMT Sandridge first. A motion was duly made by Randy Porter and properly seconded by Tyler White to accept the Findings of Fact as presented. Mr. Beaman asked if respondents were a part of a Fire Company or First Responder agency, and if any further action would be taken on the other licensed personnel that the respondents were a part of. Mr. Gibbs stated that the 2 respondents were the only personnel that were being considered today. He also mentioned that this was not a final disposition of the matter. Hearing no further discussion, the roll was called, and the motion passed.					
Board Member’s Name	Aye	Nay	Board Member’s Name	Aye	Nay
Chair Dr. Sullivan Smith	X		Twila Rose	X	
Jeff Beaman	X		James Ross, RN	X	
Dr. Seth Brown	Absent		Dennis Rowe	X	
Greg Miller	X		Tim Strange	X	
Brad Phillips	X		Tyler White	X	
Randy Porter	X		Jeanne Yeatman, RN	Absent	
Brian Robinson	X		11 AYE; 0 NAY; 2 Absent – Motion Passed		

A motion was duly made by Randy Porter and properly seconded by Greg Miller to accept Conclusions of Law as presented. Mr. Gibbs asked the members during their deliberations to articulate how the facts are applied to the law. Mr. Porter stated that it was obvious that standing around and not rendering care for an extended period, was a violation of the rules. Mr. Rowe stated that inaction and failing to apply the standard of care were negligent and endangered the patient. There is every reason to believe that these actions contributed the demise of the patient. Dr. Smith stated that their patient was in obvious distress, even to a lay person was in distress, they failed to help, and were his best shot, but failed to act. Hearing no further discussion, the roll was called, and the motion passed.					
Board Member’s Name	Aye	Nay	Board Member’s Name	Aye	Nay
Chair Dr. Sullivan Smith	X		Twila Rose	X	
Jeff Beaman	X		James Ross, RN	X	
Dr. Seth Brown	Absent		Dennis Rowe	X	
Greg Miller	X		Tim Strange	X	
Brad Phillips	X		Tyler White	X	
Randy Porter	X		Jeanne Yeatman, RN	Absent	
Brian Robinson	X		11 AYE; 0 NAY; 2 Absent – Motion Passed		

A motion was duly made by Tim Strange and properly seconded by Randy porter to summarily suspend the license of Mr. Sandridge. Hearing no further discussion, the roll was called, and the motion passed.

Board Member's Name	Aye	Nay	Board Member's Name	Aye	Nay
Chair Dr. Sullivan Smith	X		Twila Rose	X	
Jeff Beaman	X		James Ross, RN	X	
Dr. Seth Brown	Absent		Dennis Rowe	X	
Greg Miller	X		Tim Strange	X	
Brad Phillips	X		Tyler White	X	
Randy Porter	X		Jeanne Yeatman, RN	Absent	
Brian Robinson	X		11 AYE; 0 NAY; 2 Absent – Motion Passed		

A motion was duly made by Tim Strange and properly seconded by Randy porter to summarily suspend the license of Mr. Sandridge. Hearing no further discussion, the roll was called, and the motion passed. This concluded this matter.

Board Member's Name	Aye	Nay	Board Member's Name	Aye	Nay
Chair Dr. Sullivan Smith	X		Twila Rose	X	
Jeff Beaman	X		James Ross, RN	X	
Dr. Seth Brown	Absent		Dennis Rowe	X	
Greg Miller	X		Tim Strange	X	
Brad Phillips	X		Tyler White	X	
Randy Porter	X		Jeanne Yeatman, RN	Absent	
Brian Robinson	X		11 AYE; 0 NAY; 2 Absent – Motion Passed		

A motion was duly made by Randy Porter and properly seconded by Dennis Rowe to accept Findings of Fact as presented for EMT Long. Hearing no further discussion, the roll was called, and the motion passed.

Board Member's Name	Aye	Nay	Board Member's Name	Aye	Nay
Chair Dr. Sullivan Smith	X		Twila Rose	X	
Jeff Beaman	X		James Ross, RN	X	
Dr. Seth Brown	Absent		Dennis Rowe	X	
Greg Miller	X		Tim Strange	X	
Brad Phillips	X		Tyler White	X	
Randy Porter	X		Jeanne Yeatman, RN	Absent	
Brian Robinson	X		11 AYE; 0 NAY; 2 Absent – Motion Passed		

A motion was duly made by Brad Phillips and properly seconded by Greg Miller to accept the conclusions of law. Mr. Phillips stated this was because this individual was summoned to render care for a patient in distress and failed his duty to act for a lengthy period. Mr. Miller stated the providers are tasked with being a patient advocate, and they were not an advocate in these situations. Hearing no further discussion, the roll was called, and the motion passed.

Board Member's Name	Aye	Nay	Board Member's Name	Aye	Nay
Chair Dr. Sullivan Smith	X		Twila Rose	X	
Jeff Beaman	X		James Ross, RN	X	
Dr. Seth Brown	Absent		Dennis Rowe	X	
Greg Miller	X		Tim Strange	X	

Brad Phillips	X		Tyler White	X	
Randy Porter	X		Jeanne Yeatman, RN	Absent	
Brian Robinson	X		11 AYE; 0 NAY; 2 Absent – Motion Passed		

A motion was duly made by Randy Porter and properly seconded by Twila Rose to summarily suspend the license of Mr. Long. Hearing no further discussion, the roll was called, and the motion passed.					
Board Member's Name	Aye	Nay	Board Member's Name	Aye	Nay
Chair Dr. Sullivan Smith	X		Twila Rose	X	
Jeff Beaman	X		James Ross, RN	X	
Dr. Seth Brown	Absent		Dennis Rowe	X	
Greg Miller	X		Tim Strange	X	
Brad Phillips	X		Tyler White	X	
Randy Porter	X		Jeanne Yeatman, RN	Absent	
Brian Robinson	X		11 AYE; 0 NAY; 2 Absent – Motion Passed		

Dr. Smith stated further investigation onto this matter was ongoing in his closing remarks and thanked the members for their attention to this matter. Mr. Rowe stated that this behavior was egregious for any licensed personnel in Tennessee and was not a reflection of EMS in this state. Dr. Smith stated that the investigation was ongoing and that further necessary action would come to the Board in the future.

The agenda was concluded, and the meeting was adjourned.