



**Minutes of the
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES BOARD
Monday, June 16, 2025
Iris Room at 665 Mainstream Drive, Nashville, Tennessee**

To view a recording of the June 16, 2025 meeting, please follow the link below:
<https://tdh.streamingvideo.tn.gov/Mediasite/Play/89c660730caa4117b1b59216c8529b781d>

Day 1 - Monday, June 16, 2025

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

- The meeting was called to order by Chairman Steve Hamby at 0900 AM. The roll was called, finding 13 members present and 0 absent, a quorum was declared.

<i>Board Member's Name</i>	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Board Member's Name</i>	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>
Chairman Steve Hamby	X		Vice-Chairman Greg Miller	X	
Jeffrey Bagwell	X		Shannon Morphis	X	
Tim Bell	X		Joyce Noles	X	
David Blevins	X		Stacy Prater	X	
Jeanie Diden	X		Jason Tunstall	X	
Drew Hooker	X		Chris Wheat	X	
Dr. Jared McKinney	X		<i>13 Members Present, 0 Member(s) Absent = Quorum</i>		

Also, present:

- Brandon Ward, Director
- Hansel Cook, Assistant EMS Director
- Tory Ferguson, Regulatory Board Administrative Assistant 3
- Matthew Gibbs, Deputy General Counsel – Office of General Counsel
- Ronda Webb-Stewart, Senior Associate Counsel – Office of General Counsel –EMS Board Advisory Attorney
- Kertyssa Smalls, Senior Associate Counsel – Office of General Counsel

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A motion was made by Jeffrey Bagwell and second by Greg Miller to approve minutes of previous meetings with a change noted on page 4. The minutes were approved by a voice vote.*

TNPAP REPORT

- Ms. Teresa Phillips provided the TNPAP report and an overview of the process of the program and evaluation of providers.

AMBULANCE COMMITTEE

- Chair Rick Valentine provided an overview of the June 4, 2025 meeting
- Discussion of proposed telemedicine rules that were forwarded to Clinical Issues Committee
- Board was presented with proposed Ambulance Service Licensure rules were reviewed and adjusted by the committee. 2 categories: type of service and level of provided service. There was significant discussion related to the definition of advanced life support and how this relates to the staffing of units. Discussion on the proposal will occur later in the week.

APPLICANT APPROVAL

- Director Ward presented 4 individuals requesting review for approval.
- Micah England came to the Board to request approval for EMR licensure. Joyce Noles recused from the matter. ***A motion was made by David Blevins to approve with a second by Jeffrey Bagwell. The motion passed 12 yes and Joyce Noles recused.***
- James Wilhite came to the Board to request approval for EMR licensure. ***After review, a motion was made by Jason Tunstall and second by Chris Wheat for approval. The motion passed 13 yes and none opposed.***
- Daniel Payne came to the Board to request approval for Paramedic licensure. ***After discussion, a motion was made by Greg Miller and second by Jason Tunstall to deny the application. The motion passed 13 yes and none opposed.***

MEDICAL DIRECTOR/CLINICAL ISSUES

- Dr. Joe Holley joined remotely to discuss the Clinical Issues Committee meeting. Dr. Holley discussed ventilator usage. Director Ward reiterated that as the rules currently read, a ventilator can only be used for hospital-to-hospital transports. Clinical Issues felt that a PILOT study should be used over the next year to provide data for a potential rule change related to use in the field due to potential conflicts in rule. After significant discussion, it was determined that the Critical Care Paramedic required no further clarification, as it was in the rule that a CCP can initiate a ventilator. It was decided that a statement that a ventilator trained paramedic can only utilize a ventilator in an interfacility transport. ***A motion by Greg Miller and second by Tim Bell to allow Clinical Issues to initiate a pilot program to review the initiation of vents. Mr. Bell stated that Clinical Issues can determine the scope of the study. After discussion, the motion passed 13 yes and none opposed. A motion was then made by Tim Bell and second by Drew Hooker to state that Critical Care Paramedics will follow 1200-12-5-.01 and.02 regarding initiation and managing of vents. In discussion, Mr. Hooker also requested Counsel draft a policy statement as requested by Dr. Holley. It was requested that the Critical Care Paramedic should be able to initiate a ventilator at any time an artificial airway is used. Ms. Webb-Stewart state that a policy statement is not necessary for Critical Care. Mr. Hooker stated that the policy statement was not needed, but desired that the office would send out clarification after the vote. After discussion, the motion passed 13 yes and none opposed.*** There was further discussion if the vent trained paramedic could initiate a vent in the field and that the pilot study could be used for the vent trained paramedics rather than the Critical Care Paramedics to determine the future of the rule or advanced clinical practice.

CONDITIONAL LICENSE APPROVAL

- Henry Tran consent order and conditional license approval was discussed by the members. ***A motion was made by Tim Bell and second by David Blevins to deny application until requestor can appear before the Board. The motion passed 12 yes, Jason Tunstall recused, and none opposed.***

SCHOOL APPROVALS

- *Crockett EMS – EMT-Basic program at the service level. **A motion was made by Greg Miller and second by David Blevins to approve. The motion passed 13 yes and none opposed.***
- *Ascension St. Thomas – upgrade to AEMT and Anderson County EMS Community Paramedic. **A motion was made by Greg miller and second by Chris Wheat to approve both requests. The motion passed 11 yes, Shannon Morphis recused, Dr. Jared McKinney was not present for the vote, and none opposed.***

CECA/COPEC

- *Kevin Nooner provided a report to the members. **A motion to accept the report was made by Greg Miller and second by Jeffrey Bagwell. The motion passed 11 yes, Tim Bell recused, Dr. Jared Mckinney was not present for the vote, and none opposed.***

FIRST RESPONDER COMMITTEE

- Secretary Debbie Patterson provided a brief report
- Workgroups created for each of the grand divisions to collect data about service levels and other pertinent information
- Survey to be created to poll statewide first responder agencies
- Working on review of rules and regulations for necessary revisions.

LEADERSHIP AND ADVANCEMENT

- No report

OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

- Chair Greg Miller provided an overview of the June 16th 0800 meeting.
- Trey Cook Rutherford County EMS Education committee
- The Committee tabled replacement for Volunteer State until new PD is named
- Derek Sutherland and Steve Hart appointed to Clinical issues
- Brian Brandon of Franklin Fire Department to First Responder Committee in Middle TN division.
- Appeal from previously purged member that was previously removed was heard and decision was upheld.
- July 29th rulemaking committee for Air Ambulance Committee. Request for the committee to conduct a special called meeting to review prior to the hearing. The meeting can be in-person or electronic means.
- ***A motion was made by Jeffrey Bagwell and second by David Blevins to accept the report. The motion passed after a voice vote.***
- Mr. Bell requested a reminder to the standing committees to produce the “white paper” for each committee as previously requested.
- Ms. Webb-Stewart requests a written report of each committee for the Board meeting. Committee Chair Miller states he would like an in-person member to provide the reports/minutes to the members.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- AEMT and Paramedic scenario committees have produced scenarios and changes and sent to Dr. Holley for review.
- Documentation curriculum in process with workgroup
- Workgroup for ventilator training/curriculum

- Workgroup for challenges associated with mental health has created a curriculum/ instructor guide and was presented by Jason Fox.
- Requested white paper will be reviewed at next meeting.
- ***A motion was made by Drew Hooker and second by David Blevins to include the presented mental health curriculum in all initial EMT, AEMT, and Paramedic courses in any new course that starts after July 1, 2026. The motion passed 13 yes and none opposed.***

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

- Ms. Webb-Stewart provided a legislation packet to the members for review.
- Public Chapter 53 extends EMS Board until June 30, 2029.
- Public Chapter 69 details declaration of state of emergency
- Public Chapter 100 allows hcp to petition a Board at the conclusion of a treatment program to have adverse actions removed after 5 years.
- Public Chapter 127 panel authority for Boards. Mr. Gibbs to provide more tomorrow.
- Public Chapter 266 creates the medical ethics defense act.
- Public Chapter 294 removes race/diversity-based policies from Board appointments
- Public Chapter 347 parental consent for medical treatment.

OGC REPORT

- Ms. Webb-Stewart provided an OGC report. She reminded the members of the conflict-of-interest policy.
- 103 open cases with 6 cases by consent order and 8 cases potentially contested over the next 2 days.
- Air Ambulance and pay supplement rule making hearing on July 29th at 0900. Good moral character and EMT to Paramedic will be in retrospective review at a later point.
- Mr. Tim Booher from TASA addressed the Board to request a possibility to use up to 50% of the required hours of the pay supplement to be online/CAPCE approved. After a review by OGC, it was noted that the rule will allow in-person or CAPCE F5 (face to face online/live virtual).
- Retrospective rule review suggestions were presented to the members. ***A motion was made by Shannon Morphis and second by Jason Tunstall after review to approve the requested changes as presented to rule 122-12-.02 mass casualties. The motion passed 13 yes and none opposed.***
- The necessity of section 1200-12-3-.01 - response agencies for cardiac emergencies was discussed. Much of the language is also stated in section .19. ***A motion was made by David Blevins and second by Shannon Morphis to repeal the 1200-12-3-.01 rule. After discussion, the motion passed 13 yes and none opposed.***
- Changes to 1200-12-06 including Vice Chair rather than chairman pro tem. A motion by David Blevins and a second by Drew Hooker that a number 4 be added to follow current Robert's rules of order and use the term "Vice Chair". ***The motion passed 13 yes and none opposed.***
- Changes to 1200-12-07 updates to authority, "Department of Health, Office of EMS, EMS Board" rather than "division". ***Motion by Greg Miller and Second by Shannon Morphis to approve. The motion passed 13 yes and none opposed.***
- Ms. Stewart provided a copy of rules to the members and reviewed proposed wording and update changes to ***1200-12-01-.02 motion to approve by Jeffrey Bagwell and second by Shannon Morphis. The motion passed after a voice vote.***
- ***After review, a motion was made by Jeffrey Bagwell and second by Drew Hooker to approve wording changes as discussed to rule 1200-12-01-.02. The motion passed after a voice vote.***

- ***After review, a motion was made by Jeffrey Bagwell and second by David Blevins to approve wording changes as discussed to rule 1200-12-01-.03. The motion passed after a voice vote.***
- ***After review, a motion was made by David Blevins and second by Greg Miller to approve wording changes as discussed to rule 1200-12-01-.04. The motion passed after a voice vote.***
- Ms. Webb-Stewart asked the members if they would like to consider a “consent agenda” for review prior to the meetings which would allow for a faster movement of the meeting. The members were in favor of this suggestion.

ETHICS COURSE

- Director Ward approached the Board with Mr. Jason Fox to discuss a solution to the ethics course that is often mandated for disciplinary action. The Board felt it was appropriate to table the discussion until Ms. Webb-Stewart had an opportunity to review the content.