



**Minutes of the
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES BOARD
Wednesday, June 26, 2024
Iris Room at 665 Mainstream Drive, Nashville, Tennessee**

To view a recording of the June 26th meeting, please follow the link below:
<https://tdh.streamingvideo.tn.gov/Mediasite/Play/01f36113911c4e5ba85c1038b423864f1d>

Day 1 - Wednesday, June 26, 2024

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

- The meeting was called to order by Chairman Steve Hamby. The roll was called, finding 12 members present and Tim Bell 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>12 Members Present, 1 Member(s) Absent = Quorum</i>		

Also, present:

Brandon Ward, Director - Office of Emergency Medical Services
Hansel Cook, Assistant EMS Director
Tory Ferguson, Regulatory Board Administrative Assistant 3
Ronda Webb-Stewart, Senior Associate Counsel – Office of General Counsel - EMS Board Advisory Attorney
Tim Peters, Senior Associate Counsel – Office of General Counsel
Ellen Gose, Assistant Counsel – Office of General Counsel
Kertyssa Smalls, Senior Associate Counsel – Office of General Counsel
The Honorable Judge Michael Begley, Administrative Law Judge, TN Secretary of State

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A motion was duly made by Jeffrey Bagwell and properly seconded by David Blevins to approve the March 2024 meeting minutes. The motion passed after a voice vote with all present in favor and 1 member absent.*

COPEC/CECA REPORT

- Mrs. Natasha Kurth, Executive Director of COPEC provided a brief report to the members.

- *A motion was duly made by Greg Miller and properly seconded by David Blevins for approval of the report. The motion passed after a voice vote with all present in favor and 1 member absent.*

MEDICAL DIRECTOR REPORT

- Dr. Joe Holley, M.D. – TN EMS Medical Director provided a brief report to the members.
- Revisions to the Medical Director protocol/guidelines supplied to the state for distribution are nearing completion and will be provided soon. Highlight of changes optional medications (ex: TXA, Toradol), refinements to restraint protocols/issues and medication usage, addition of i-Gel for pediatrics, inclusion of double sequential defibrillation were mentioned.
- Discussion related to online Medical Direction/Control issues. Patients engaged with EMS and or Law enforcement with medical or psychiatric complaints. Care calls hospital for medical control and refusals from facilities where patient may or may not be transported. Dr. Holley stated future input from Board and OGC will be necessary. Physicians may have concerns with potential liability concerns and potential parameters to refine process.
- Congratulates to Dr. Jared McKinney for new Medical Director roles recently assumed.

CONTESTED CASE HEARING

Case #17.34-242505A TDH V. William D. Winstead II, License #214798

- Ms. Kertyssa Smalls, Senior Associate Counsel – Office of General Counsel will represent the TDH in this matter. Mr. Winstead is not represented by counsel and was reminded that he was afforded the opportunity to seek such.
- Judge Michael Begley provided an overview of the contested case process and confirmed the related information and technical record. He also reviewed the responsibilities of the Board members in this matter.
- David Blevins recused himself from this matter.
- Mr. Winstead was placed under oath by Judge Begley, Ms. Smalls provided a brief opening statement.
- Ms. Smalls provided proof from the State to the Board for their review. Mr. Winstead provided testimony to the state and on his behalf. The Board members also asked questions to the respondent. The proof was closed. No closing statements were made. Judge Begley then provided further instructions to the Board members.
- *A motion was duly made by Jeffrey Bagwell and properly seconded by Drew Hooker to approve the Findings of Fact. The roll was called, 11 members present voted in favor, Tim Bell was absent, and David Blevins recused. The motion passed.*
- *A motion was duly made by Greg Miller and properly seconded by Jeffrey Bagwell to accept the Conclusions of Law. The roll was called, 11 members present voted in favor, Tim Bell was absent, and David Blevins recused. The motion passed.*
- *A motion was duly made by Stacy Prater and properly seconded by Jeanie Diden to accept the disciplinary action as presented of \$5800 civil penalty. After discussion, the roll was called, finding 9 members in-favor, members Greg Miller and Shannon Morphis opposed, Tim Bell was absent, and David Blevins recused. The motion passed.*
- *A motion was duly made by Jeffrey Bagwell and properly seconded by Chris Wheat to accept the Policy Statement as presented. The roll was called, 11 members present voted in favor, Tim Bell was absent, and David Blevins recused. The motion passed. The contested case hearing was concluded.*

A 10-minute recess was taken at 1000.

CONSENT ORDERS

- **Maxwell Burcher, License # 219093, Case #2023035761** – Proposed discipline of 1-year probation, \$700 civil penalty. Greg Miller recused from this matter. *A motion was duly made by Jeffrey Bagwell and properly seconded by Jason Tunstall to approve as presented. The roll was called, 11 members present voted in favor, Tim Bell was absent, and Greg Miller recused. The motion passed.*

- **Darryl White, License #33705, Case #2023012511** – Proposed discipline of TNPAP order. *A motion was duly made by Stacy Prater and properly seconded by Greg Miller to accept. The roll was called, all 12 members present voted in-favor. Tim Bell was absent.*
- **Henry Tran, License # 215545, Case #2023007251** – Proposed discipline of 3-year probation, as the respondent has previously completed the TNPAP. *A motion was duly made by Jeffrey Bagwell and properly seconded by Stacy Prater to accept as presented. The roll was called, 11 members present voted in favor, Jason Tunstall recused, and Tim Bell was absent. The motion passed.*
- **Caitlin Benton, License #214597, Case #2023010711** - Proposed discipline of TNPAP. *A motion was duly made by Jeffrey Bagwell and properly seconded by Stacy Prater to accept as presented. The roll was called, all 12 members present voted in favor, Tim Bell was absent. The motion passed.*
- **Zachary Haeuptle, License #38215, Case #2023035751** - Proposed discipline of revocation. *A motion was duly made by Shannon Morphis and properly seconded by Drew Hooker. The roll was called, all 12 members present voted in favor, Tim Bell was absent. The motion passed.*
- **Saber Medical Transport, Case #2023001001** - Proposed discipline of 3-year probation and \$3700 civil penalty. *A motion was duly made by Drew Hooker and properly seconded by Dr. Jared McKinney to accept. The roll was called, all 12 members present voted in-favor. Tim Bell was absent. The motion passed.*
- **Kimberly Boehlein, License # 15772, Case #2023008501** - Proposed discipline of 3- year probation, PHTLS, and Paramedic refresher within 180 days. *After discussion, a motion was duly made by Jeffrey Bagwell and properly seconded by Greg Miller to accept as presented. The roll was called, Jeffrey Bagwell voted yes, 10 members voted no, David Blevins recused, and Tim Bell was absent. The motion failed.* The members in discussion suggested a revised disciplinary action of revocation.
- **Samantha Campbell, License #36729, Case #2023032431** – Proposed discipline of Voluntary Surrender of License. *A motion was duly made by Drew Hooker and properly seconded by Jeanie Diden for approval as presented. The roll was called, all 12 members present voted in favor, Tim Bell was absent. The motion passed.*
- **Steven Bradfield, License #21646, Case #2023027351** – Proposed discipline of Voluntary Surrender of Paramedic Instructor Endorsement. *A motion was duly made by Drew Hooker and properly seconded by Jeanie Diden for approval. The roll was called, all 12 members present voted in favor, Tim Bell was absent. The motion passed.*
- **Houston Looney, License # 212109, Case #2023020611** - Proposed discipline of 3 years of probation, 4 hours of ethics within 6 months. *After discussion, a motion was duly made by Drew and properly seconded by Shannon Morphis to deny the order. The roll was called, finding 9 in-favor of denial, with Jeffrey Bagwell, David Blevins, and Jared McKinney opposed, and Tim Bell absent, the motion to deny passed.* A suggested potential disciplinary action of revocation was discussed/suggested.
- **Cameron Sherwood, License #212325, Case #2022023071** – Proposed discipline of a 1-year suspension of license followed by 3-year probation, workplace sexual harassment training, prevention of sexual harassment of patients within 60 days of ratification. Upon return to work, employer monitoring for 6 months with a monthly report to the EMS office. *A motion was duly made by Greg Miller and properly seconded by Jason Tunstall for approval. The roll was called, all 12 members present voted in favor, Tim Bell was absent. The motion passed.*
- **Advantage Care EMS, LLC, License #10270, Case #2023030701** – Proposed discipline of 5-year probation and a civil penalty of \$8300 to be paid within 6 months of ratification of the order. *After discussion, a motion was duly made by Joyce Noles and properly seconded by Jeffrey Bagwell to accept as presented. The roll was called, 11 members present voted in favor, Drew Hooker opposed, Tim Bell was absent. The motion passed.*
- **Colton Young, License #41006, Case #2023009511** - Proposed discipline of 3-year probation and workplace sexual harassment within 30 days. *After discussion, a motion to deny was duly made by Drew Hooker and properly seconded by Jason Tunstall. The roll was called, all 12 members present voted in favor, Tim Bell was absent. The motion passed.* A suggested disciplinary action was for suspension of at least 1 year, along with education as previously mentioned within 90 days of ratification.
- **Brandon Ford, License #29813, Case #2023038611** – Suspension of license until proof is provided of continuing education hours and a civil penalty \$1250. *After discussion, a motion was duly made by Greg Miller and properly seconded by Stacy Prater to accept the order. The roll was called, the roll was called, all 12 members present voted in favor, Tim Bell was absent. The motion passed.*

- **Kimberly Pruitt, License # 210268, Case #2023000151** – Proposed discipline of Voluntary Surrender of license. *A motion was duly made by Drew Hooker and properly seconded by Jeffrey Bagwell for approval as presented. The roll was called, all 12 members present voted in favor, Tim Bell was absent. The motion passed.*
- **William Taylor, License # 27550, Case #2023007911** – Proposed discipline of Voluntary Surrender. *A motion was duly made by Jeffrey Bagwell and properly seconded by Jeanie Diden for approval as presented. The roll was called, all 12 members present voted in favor, Tim Bell was absent. The motion passed.*
- **Barnabus Eskew, License #27322, Case #2023032441** – Proposed discipline of Voluntary Surrender. *A motion was duly made by Stacy Prater and properly seconded by Jason Tunstall for approval as presented. The roll was called, all 12 members present voted in favor, Tim Bell was absent. The motion passed.*
- **Mary Brazzle, License #33197, Case #2023003381** – Proposed discipline of 3-year probation, Paramedic refresher within 9 months of order. *A motion was duly made by Drew Hooker and properly seconded by Stacy Prater to deny the order. 11 voted in favor of denial, David Blevins voted no. Tim Bell was absent. The motion passed.* After discussion, the recommendation was to have the respondent appear at a hearing. A poll was held of the members stating that all requested a hearing.
- **Kelvin McGee License # 30463, Case #2024003181** – Proposed discipline of Voluntary surrender. *A motion was duly made by Drew Hooker and properly seconded by Jeffrey Bagwell for approval The roll was called, all 12 members present voted in favor, Tim Bell was absent. The motion passed.*
- **Corey Friend License #39502, Case #2022021151** – Recommended discipline 3-year probation, ethics, refresher *A motion to deny was properly made by Dr. Jared McKinney and properly seconded by Stacy Prater. The roll was called, 11 members present voted in favor, Steve Hamby voted no, Tim Bell was absent. The motion passed.* A 1-year suspension was recommended with the ethics, refresher, documentation to be completed within 6-months of passage and followed by 3-year probation.

TNPAP REPORT

- Ms. Teresa Phillips, Executive Director of TNPAP provided the report of July 1, 2023 – March 31, 2024 to the Board.

APPLICANT APPROVAL

- Ms. Kristen Foster EMT license #215155 came before the Board to request conditional license agreement approval for upgrade to AEMT while on probation. *A motion was duly made by Drew Hooker and properly seconded by Greg Miller for approval The roll was called, all 12 members present voted in favor, Tim Bell was absent. The motion passed.*

SCHOOL APPROVALS

- Vanderbilt University LifeFlight and Morristown-Hamblen EMS requested upgrade to AEMT educational programs. *A motion for approval was duly made by David Blevins and properly seconded by Greg Miller. The motion passed with a unanimous voice vote from all present members.*

AIR AMBULANCE

- Co-Chair Mr. Matt Owens provided the report, citing Tyler Thompson and Dr. Frank Tift were added to the Air Committee recently to fill an existing vacancy and a new position as previously approved. The committee is working on minimum equipment and supply list updates and anticipate submission at next meeting.

AMBULANCE SERVICE COMMITTEE

- Mr. Rick Valentine provided the report, stating the committee was charged with the potential need for research of telemedicine rules. The committee will also discuss rules related to ambulance service categories as pertaining to

unlicensed ambulance apprentice/operators and the categories of each. Chairman Hamby requested the committee investigate a “tiered system” of ambulance operations due to staffing and requirements to provide appropriate level and standard of care. Drew Hooker also requested to add telemedicine to the Clinical Issues committee as well. Drew Hooker also stated it would be a good opportunity to potentially find alternate ways to recognize ambulance services and the levels of care they provide and their success or lack thereof. ***A motion was duly made by David Blevins and properly seconded by Drew Hooker to request Ambulance Committee and Clinical issues review alternate care and tiered systems and all rules that may impact services. The motion passed after a unanimous voice vote from all present.***

CLINICAL ISSUES COMMITTEE

- Dr. Joe Holley presented the report from the clinical issues committee. He discussed a pilot program request for Buprenorphine administration program in Hamilton County that was approved by the committee. This will be a function of the Community Paramedic Program. ***A motion was duly made by Drew Hooker and properly seconded by Dr. Jared McKinney for a 12-month pilot with reports to the Board every 6 months as a review of this medication for opioid misuse management in the field. After discussion, the roll was called, 11 members voted in-favor, Shannon Morphis voted no, Tim Bell was absent. The motion passed.***
- EMR pulse oximetry and discussion was discussed. The committee was in-favor of allowing EMR to use pulse oximetry. The committee was also requested to consider EMR usage of glucometers. The committee was not in favor of this due to CLIA requirements. ***A motion was duly made by David Blevins and properly seconded by Jason Tunstall to accept the recommendation of committee to implement approved clinical practice for EMR use of pulse oximetry. The roll was called, and all 12 members present voted in favor of approval.*** After discussion of the use of glucometers by EMR, it was decided to take no action.
- ***A motion was duly made by Drew Hooker and properly seconded by David Blevins that a workgroup be added to review potential changes/increases to scope of practice as may be found in other states that may benefit TN. The roll was called, all 12 members present voted in favor, Tim Bell was absent. The motion passed.***
- A review of obvious death/death determination guidelines was reviewed by the committee. Mr. Kevin Spratlin provided a brief overview of the process discussion. Dr. Holley also opined that a thorough assessment would have prevented many issues in the past. The protocol as it exists is objective and sufficient to meet the current needs.
- Discussion about Clinical issues review of rule relating to EMS personnel operating in outside of an EMS role to see if there needed to be changes related to the potential need to expand this to other locations where personnel could be working beyond an ambulance or ER.
- A discussion of a co-chair election of David Burdett to the committee was discussed and the Board wished to have a physician in that role. This will be discussed at a later point tomorrow.
- A further discussion of the buckle guard will be on the Board agenda for tomorrow.
- David Blevins asked about potential advances in the field as related to overdose/drug abuse and other new treatment trends.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- Mr. Greg Johnson, Education Committee Chair presented a report to the members.
- Education Committee requests rule change to Community Paramedic guidelines applicant requirements from 5 years to 2 years of work experience and remove “at an ALS service”. This request is to better align with critical care. The requested change is: “to hold a current unencumbered TN Paramedic license with at least 2 years work experience as a Paramedic”. ***A motion was duly made by Greg Miller and properly seconded by Jason Tunstall to request a change in the language of the rule to “to hold a current unencumbered TN Paramedic license with at least 2 years work experience as a Paramedic”. The motion passed after a unanimous voice vote from all present.***
- Discussion of alternate examination for Critical Care in lieu of Morris-McDaniel: Committee recommends International Board of Specialty Certifications CC-P and FP-C as well as Morris-McDaniel for credentialing. IBSC agreed to discount exam \$100 and provide other methods to proctor exam if necessary. This would not negate the requirement to attend a Board approved program of training. Director Ward informs the members as a clarification that TDH is under contract with Morris-McDaniel for the PACC exam currently until 2027 and it is also

administered by the EMS Consultants. Ms. Webb-Stewart stated further review will be necessary to determine if another agency can provide an examination. ***A motion was duly made by Jason Tunstall and properly seconded by Drew Hooker to table the matter until more research can be performed and returned to the members at the next meeting. The motion passed with a unanimous voice vote from all present members.***

- State Practical Examination parameters were reviewed at the previous meeting. 10 blind drawn skills will be mandated at the EMT level, with the medical and trauma assessment sheets utilized. Proctors will continue to be gathered by the educational institution. The scenarios for all levels will utilize all patient spectrums. AEMT and Paramedic levels will use an Integrated out of Hospital scenario. The maximum time will be a maximum of 20 minutes. The student will have a random skill to perform with mandatory actions and a professional partner to assist in some portions of the scenario. The AEMT and Paramedic level will require 2 proctors per station. The Paramedic level will also require a Dynamic Cardiology station with the same 2 proctor requirement per station. ***A motion was duly made by Drew Hooker and properly seconded by Chris Wheat to approve the testing process/instruments as presented by the education committee. The roll was called, all 12 members present voted in favor, Tim Bell was absent. The motion passed.***
- The members were presented the ‘Psychomotor Coordinator Manual’ for review. ***A motion was duly made by Drew Hooker and properly seconded by Jason Tunstall to table until the June 27th meeting so that the members could adequately review the document. The motion passed with a unanimous voice vote from all present members.***
- A scenario generation/review workgroup was created by the Education Committee to generate and approve scenarios to provide to the State Medical Director for approval prior to use in a practical testing.
- EMR to EMT bridge gap analysis ongoing by committee.

COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES

- Chair Mr. Greg Miller presented a report of the previous COC meeting on June 25th. It was decided that the March meeting in each calendar year will be when the chair and co-chair of the committee will be elected.
- Necessity for creation of First Responder Committee discussed for improved communication between EMR provider, primary EMS service, and EMS Board. A purpose statement was proposed by Jeff Beaman representing the fire service at the meeting. The COC voted to establish the First Responder Committee. Chairman Miller further stated that letters of interest with resume were to be provided to the EMS office for dissemination to the committee for evaluation to ensure adequate representation across the state and across the numerous areas/agencies that first response is provided across the state.
- The Committee on Committees wished to be renamed to the ‘Oversight Committee’. Other committees will be tasked with compiling their purpose, mission, priorities, objective of each of the committees. All of these will be discussed with OGS to streamline and ensure that they appropriately align.
- Curt Aukerman requested and was approved by the committee a leave of absence from the Education Committee due to health issues. He has requested DeVette Carter to serve as his proxy.
- ***A motion was duly made by Shannon Morphis and properly seconded by David Blevins to approve the name change to ‘Oversight Committee’ as well as other recommendations as stated. After discussion, the roll was called, 11 members present voted in favor, Greg Miller abstained, and Tim Bell was absent. The motion passed.***

LEADERSHIP AND ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE

- Chair Phil Sanderson provided a brief report of the meeting on June 20th noting several items as per direction of Board and Oversight Committee.
- Mr. Kenny Moffitt was elected to role of co-chair.
- 5 areas to review: recruitment and retention, practitioner wellness and mental health, patient and practitioner safety, career development, task force to reduce instance of adverse reactions in EMS field. Committee voted to reduce 5 into 3 workgroups. These will be a workgroup for practitioner wellness (mental/physical) and patient/practitioner safety (5 members), a group for recruitment/retention and career development (3 members), and a taskforce for professional standards and mentorship (3 members). Expectations were placed on each workgroup for the next committee meeting. Each workgroup will meet at least once monthly.
- During discussion it was noted that the co-chair recommendation would come from the Oversight Committee. ***A motion was duly made by David Blevins and properly seconded by Jeffrey Bagwell to appoint Kenny Moffitt to***

the role of co-chair of the Leadership and Advancement Committee. Ms. Webb-Stewart provided a brief opinion on the role of the oversight committee had the autonomy to appoint and make changes to members and chair of the committees. *The roll was called, all 12 members present voted in favor, Tim Bell was absent. The motion passed.*

Ms. Webb Stewart provided an overview of the meeting for the next day. The meeting was then adjourned.