TN Department of Health

Minutes of the
EMERGERNCY MEDICAL SERVICES BOARD
Iris Room and Poplar Room,
First Floor 665 Mainstream Drive Nashville, TN 37243
Wednesday, March 18, 2026

To view a comprehensive recording of the meeting(s), please follow the links below:

March 18, 2026

Iris Room: https://app.vidcast.io/share/8b605c66-c63b-432b-baf0-347f62057173?playerMode=vidcast
Poplar Room: https://app.vidcast.io/share/bf9dded8-7791-47ca-9ca6-6f9ba90ff123?playlistShareId=58bf54f2-d665-45e4-a5f6-aaa9d5b81083&autoplay=1

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

- The meeting was called to order by Chairman Steve Hamby at 0900 AM. The roll was called, and a quorum was present.

Board Member's Name	***Present***	***Absent***		***Board Member's Name***	***Present***	***Absent***
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			***12 Members Present, 1 Member(s) Absent = Quorum***		

Also, present:
Brandon Ward, Director
Hansel Cook, Assistant EMS Director
Tory Ferguson, Regulatory Board Administrative Assistant 3
Kertyssa Smalls, Senior Associate Counsel – Office of General Counsel
Ellen Gose, Senior Associate Counsel – Office of General Counsel
Tim Peters, Senior Associate Counsel – Office of General Counsel
Honorable Judge Claudia Padfield, Administrative Law Judge, TN Secretary of State – Panel 1
Honorable Judge Shannon Barnhill, Administrative Law Judge, TN Secretary of State – Panel 2

OGC OPENING STATEMENT

Ms. Smalls reminded the board of the conflict-of-interest statement. She also reminded members of the requirements of the sunshine law.

ELECTION OF CHAIR/VICE CHAIR

- Director Ward conducted the election of Chair and Vice-Chair
- ***Motion by Hooker, second by Wheat for Greg Miller.***
- ***Motion by Noles, second by Morphis for Steve Hamby.***
- ***Motion to cease by Blevins, second by Tunstall.***
- ***Noles, Morphis, Blevins voted for Hamby. Bagwell, Bell, Hooker, and McKinney, Prater, Tunstall, and Wheat voted for Miller. Miller and Hamby were non-voting. Greg Miller was elected as Chairman.***
- ***Motion by Prater, second by Wheat for Drew Hooker as Vice Chair.***
- ***Motion by Hamby, second by Bagwell for Jason Tunstall as Vice Chair.***
- ***Motion by Morphis, second by Tunstall for Dr. Jared Mckinney as Vice Chair***
- ***Motion to cease by Blevins, second by Wheat.***
- ***Hamby, Bell, Miller, Blevins, and Noles voted for Tunstall. Morphis voted for McKinney. Bagwell, Prater, and Wheat voted for Hooker. Tunstall, Hooker, and McKinney were non-voting. Jason Tunstall is elected the Vice Chair.***

DIVISION OF BOARD PANELS FOR DISCIPLINARY MATTERS

- The Board divided into 2 panels to hear cases. A brief recess was held prior to beginning hearings. Quorum is 3.

CONTESTED CASES

- The Board was divided into 2 separate panels to review cases on day 1.
- **Panel 1** was in the Iris Board Room and consisted of: Honorable Judge, court reporter, Chairman Greg Miller, Jeffrey Bagwell, David Blevins, Drew Hooker, and Tim Bell.
- **Panel 2** was in the Poplar Board Room and consisted of: Honorable Judge Shannon Barnhill, court reporter, Vice Chairman Jason Tunstall, Dr. Jared McKinney, Chris Wheat, Shannon Morphis, Steve Hamby, Joyce Noles and Stacy Prater.

Panel 1:

Charles Scotty-Lee Collins, AEMT license # 42098, Docket #17.34244335A. (not present)

- ***Motion by Blevins, second by Hooker to proceed in Default. Motion passed.***
- ***Motion by Blevins, second by Bagwell to accept Findings of Fact as presented. Motion passed.***
- ***Motion by Blevins, second by Bagwell to accept Conclusions of Law. Motion passed.***
- ***Motion Bagwell, second by Hooker for Disciplinary Action civil penalty $3800 and 2-year probation. Motion passed.***
- ***Motion by Blevins, second by Hooker for Policy Statement as presented. Motion passed.***

This concluded the business of panel 1

Panel 2: Michael Till, EMR Certification #14136, Docket #17.34-255406A.

- The respondent is present and represented by counsel Kevin Snyder. Ms. Ellen Gose will represent the TDH. After witness testimony and presentations by Mr Snyder and Ms. Gose, Judge Barnhill provided directions to the members.

- ***Motion by Hamby, second by Dr. McKinney to accept Findings of Fact as presented. Motion passed.***
- ***Motion by Dr. McKinney and second by Wheat to accept Conclusions of Law. Motion passed.***
- ***Motion by Hamby, second by Noles for Disciplinary action as written. Hamby, Noles, Tunstall voted yes. Dr. McKinney, Morphis, Prater, and Wheat voted no. Motion failed. Motion by Wheat, second by Morphis for 12-month probation. Wheat voted yes. Motion failed. Motion by Prater, second by Morphis for no action. Dr. Mckinney, Morphis, Prater, and Wheat voted yes. Hamby, Noles, and Tunstall voted no. Motion passed.***
- ***Motion by Prater, second by Noles for Policy Statement to read "there is sufficient evidence but due to timing, we feel no discipline, probation, or TNPAP is necessary". After discussion, motion by Prater and second by Morphis to reopen discussion for further modifications to Policy Statement. Policy Statement to read "We believe there is sufficient evidence in the case, but we believe no disciplinary action is necessary based on 30 days of rehab, mandatory drug screens, and timing elapsed in the case." Hamby voted no. Motion passed.***

This concluded the business of panel 2.

The Board resumed its regular configuration as a single group at 11:39 am. Chairman Miller called the roll, finding 12 members present and Jeanie Didien absent.

<u>CONSENT & AGREED ORDERS</u>

Amy D. Howell, AEMT license #210931, Case #2024005291.

- Disposition: reprimand, civil penalty $1250, must complete 25 hours CE within 30 days. ***Motion by Hooker, second by Blevins to approve. Motion passed.***

Sara Trent, Paramedic license #210375, Case #2025009431.

- Disposition: 90-day suspension, 3-year probation, 8-hour Board approved ethics course. ***Motion by Hamby, second by Tunstall to approve. Motion passed.***

John W. Troup, Paramedic license #33152, Case #20250202201.

- Disposition: 3-year probation and 8-hour Board approved ethics course. ***Motion by Tunstall, second by Prater to accept. Morphis voted no. Motion passed.***

Bradley T. Jackson, Paramedic license #119352, Case #2024037251.

- *Requested Disposition: 3-year probation, 8-hour Board approved ethics, and civil penalty*. ***Motion to deny by Dr. McKinney, second by Prater. Bell, Hamby, Tunstall voted no. Motion passed.*** *Members request more significant disciplinary action.*

<u>APPLICANT APPROVAL</u>

Andrew Nelson

- ***Motion by Hamby, second by Hooker to deny based upon the information provided during an executive session of the Board. Dr. McKinney and Noles voted no, Tunstall abstained, motion passed.***

Jekayla Chaffin – Not Present - requesting initial EMT licensure

- ***Motion by Tunstall to accept/approve, second by McKinney. Bagwell, Bell, Hamby, Morphis, Noles, Prater, Wheat, Chairman Miller voted no. Motion failed.***
- ***Motion to deny by Hamby, second by Morphis. Blevins, Hooker, Dr. McKinney, Tunstall voted no. Motion passed.***

Tanner Hazelton– requests reciprocity EMT application approval.

- ***Motion by Tunstall second by Dr. McKinney to approve. Motion passed.***

Phillip Wilson

- ***Motion by McKinney, second by Tunstall to approve. Bagwell, Hooker, Hamby, Wheat, Chairman Miller voted no. Motion passed.***

Tokar Hoppe – review and approval of background findings so that he may enroll in EMT course.

- Ms. Smalls advised the members that Mr. Hoppie was advised the right to have an executive session, he understands and verbalizes on the record that he waives that right. He provided information to the members related to his previous history. ***Motion by Hooker, second by Morphis to approve. Motion passed.***

Nathan McGuire

- Ms. Smalls advised the members that Mr. McGuire was advised the right to have an executive session, he understands and verbalizes on the record that he waives that right. He provided information to the members related to his previous history. ***Motion by Prater second by Tunstall to approve. Motion passed.***

COPEC/CECA REPORT

- Conference April 17th Dollywood Suites
- Star of Life Awards May 13th at MTSU student union ballroom.
- Additional funding received for pediatric restraint devices
- Sensory kits available on CECA website
- My Hero Cares program in the pilot phase with 9 agencies and 11 families currently enrolled.
- Joint annual report upcoming in June.
- EMS Pediatric readiness program in legal review with OGC.

TNPAP REPORT

- Rachel Talley, Administrative Director, provided a brief report.

Recess for lunch from 1235-1335.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- ***Motion by Blevins, second by Hamby to approve December meeting minutes. Motion approved.***

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

- Will be at next meeting.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- Chairman Jason Fox provided the report, citing he was elected as chair, Dana Knueven as secretary, and Katie Hall as vice chair.
- Ventilator workgroup has submitted finalized the initial curriculum for review
- Workgroups created for categorization of CE, preceptors receiving CE,
- Request for rubric for IC updates for future instructor updates.

FIRST RESPONDER COMMITTEE

- Chairman Jeff Beeman discussed last meeting, citing his reelection, vice chair Brian Collins and Secretary Angie Sullivan. He also introduced the recent creation of a survey for FR agencies, and submission of a white paper as requested by the Oversight Committee. ***Motion by Hamby and second by Blevins to approve survey created by First Responder committee for distribution. Motion passed.***

OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

- Drew Hooker was elected as chairman of the Oversight Committee; Stacy Prater was elected as vice chair and Jeanie Diden was elected as secretary.
- Mr. Hooker reviewed membership changes to various committees, as well as elections of chair, vice chair, and secretary. ***Motion to accept nominations and election process for committees by Bell second by Blevins. Motion passed.***
- Specialty Care Transports were discussed by the Oversight Committee. It was decided to expand the scope of the Air ambulance Committee to include SCT. The process will continue to expand the membership of the committee to include those agencies***. Motion by Blevins and second by Wheat to approve recommendations. Blevins requested to see a listing of the committee members. Motion passed.***

CONSENT AGENDA

- ***Members reviewed the consent agenda. Motion by Blevins, second by Bagwell to approve. Motion passed.***
- Director Ward would like to work with the oversight committee for a creation template to use for the consent agenda. ***Motion by Hamby, second by Blevins to share format of Air Ambulance minutes with other groups for future reference. Motion passed.***

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Comparison numbers on iPad for services and vehicles.

SCHOOL APPROVAL

First Call Ambulance in Nashville – upgrade to AEMT. ***Motion by Hooker, second by Blevins. Motion passed.***

OGC REPORT

- Ms. Smalls provided information on potential scam targeting licensees regarding a fictitious licensing scam or communications indicating the licensee owes a penalty. She reminded the members and the public to be wary of any suspicious communication.
- 132 open disciplinary cases.
- Air Ambulance and Pay Supplement rules have been signed off by Attorney General's office and will be sent to Secretary of State for 90-day review.
- If there is a question or concern, please contact OGC directly rather than contacting another Board member.

- Ms. Smalls asked for guidance with pay supplement concerns that come up until rule is finalized. ***Motion by Bell and second by Hamby to approve the office to continue to provide guidance based on proposed rule. Motion passed.***
- Discussion of policy regarding COMPACT providers. It was mentioned that the policy should be removed from the website.
- Director Ward provided an explanation of how disciplinary action could be taken with a COMPACT provider. Mr. Miller suggested a section on the website for further information on the subject.
- Updated criteria for service-based education programs was discussed. ***Ms. Smalls provided a draft for a potential policy. Motion by Bell and second by Blevins to adopt policy as presented. Motion passed.***
- Ms. Ronda Webb has departed the OGC. The members wished her well.
- Mr. Blevins discussed additional requested information for consent and agreed orders. OGC took this under advisement for future potential updates.

OLD BUSINESS

- No further

NEW BUSINESS

- No further

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Mr. Andrew Reed provided a brief update on TASA and mentioned that President Tim Booher had undergone a recent procedure and asked for thoughts and prayers for his continued recovery.

The motion was adjourned at 3:45pm.