



**Minutes of the
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES BOARD
Thursday, March 21, 2024
Iris Room at 665 Mainstream Drive, Nashville, Tennessee**

Day 2 - Thursday, March 21, 2024

To view a recording of the March 21st meeting, please follow the link below:
<https://tdh.streamingvideo.tn.gov/Mediasite/Play/8f236cc5ec4d4e4c87799800b1651cbb1d>

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

- The meeting was called to order by Chairman Steve Hamby at 0900. The roll was called, finding 12 members present and 1 member 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 Members 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
John Dabbs, EMS Consultant – Region 1
Dwight Davis, EMS Consultant – Region 5
Aaron Kinser, EMS Consultant At Large
Russell D. Gupton, EMS Consultant At Large
Ronda Webb-Stewart, Senior Associate Counsel – Office of General Counsel
Tim Peters, Senior Associate Counsel – Office of General Counsel - EMS Board Advisory Attorney
The Honorable Judge Steve Darnell, Administrative Law Judge, TN Secretary of State
Court Reporter

CONTESTED CASE HEARING

Case #17.34-234446A TDH V. Cortney L. Bryson, License #36322

- Judge Darnell provided introductions and reviewed procedures for the hearing. Chairman Steve Hamby recused himself from discussion and vote on this matter and Vice Chair Greg Miller assumed the role of Chair.

- After search of the immediate area, it was determined that the respondent nor counsel for the respondent was present. Mr. Tim Peters stated that he wished to proceed in default. *A motion was duly made by Drew Hooker and properly seconded by David Blevins to proceed in default. The roll was called finding 11 members in favor, Jeffrey Bagwell absent, and Chairman Hamby recused, the motion passed.*
- Mr. Peters provided opening statements and proof to the members for review. After review of the material and process instructions from Judge Darnell, *a motion to accept the Findings of Fact as presented was duly made by David Blevins and properly seconded by Dr. Jared McKinney. The roll was called finding 11 members in favor, Jeffrey Bagwell absent, and Chairman Hamby recused, the motion passed.*
- *A motion to accept the Conclusions of Law as proposed was duly made by Shannon Morphis and properly seconded by Chris Wheat. The roll was called finding 11 members in favor, Jeffrey Bagwell absent, and Chairman Hamby recused, the motion passed.*
- *A motion to accept the proposed Disciplinary Action of revocation was duly made by Drew Hooker and properly seconded by Jason Tunstall. The roll was called finding 11 members in favor, Jeffrey Bagwell absent, and Chairman Hamby recused, the motion passed.*
- *A motion to adopt a Policy Statement as proposed was duly made by David Blevins and properly seconded by Jeanie Diden. The roll was called finding 11 members in favor, Jeffrey Bagwell absent, and Chairman Hamby recused, the motion passed.*
- This matter was concluded, and the contested case hearing ended.

PILOT PROGRAM REPORT

- Mr. Joseph Powell, Director of Crockett County EMS and EMS Supervisor Will McBride approached to the Board to report on the pilot program for the delivery of prehospital blood products. A brief overview of the patient population that had received blood products was provided by Mr. McBride and a request was made to allow the program to continue with full approval. After discussion and questions from the members, *a motion was duly made by Shannon Morphis and properly seconded by Chris Wheat to end the pilot study and provide full approval, an amendment was made to request quarterly reports from the service to Clinical Issues Committee if the program continues. The roll was called finding 12 members in favor, Jeffrey Bagwell absent, the motion passed.*

BUCKLE GUARD DISCUSSION

- Buckle Guard Safety Device - Counsel Tony Dalton and Steve Blackburn had initially asked to speak today but had scheduling conflicts. There was significant discussion regarding this issue. A 15-minute recess was taken to gather documents related to this from the ambulance service using these devices that were sent in response to the December meeting. Chairman Hamby reiterated minutes of the December meeting stating that they would like more information on the device. After a lengthy discussion, it was decided that a letter of response should be drafted to the ambulance service regarding the Board's concerns in this matter. Ms. Webb-Stewart mentioned she would like some direction on wording of the letter. Member Tim Bell stated he desired that there be a protocol for use and should be used within the manufacturer recommendations. Chairman Hamby concurred, and Mr. Miller stated that there are many brands of this device that function in numerous ways, and the Board should be cautious with naming a single device. *A motion was duly made by Tim Bell and properly seconded by David Blevins for Office and OGC to issue a response letter to Priority Ambulance describing the concerns of the Board. An amendment was offered that the device should be used as the device has been recommended by the Board. Mr. Bell withdrew his motion and requested the Office communicate with the service and explain the current stance.*

PSYCHOMOTOR EXAM

- A tabled issue from the 3/20 meeting regarding potential discoverable public records as related to a psychomotor exam approved by the Board. Ms. Webb-Stewart stated that the documents in the form of a template would be discoverable in a public records request. There was discussion related to mechanism for timetable in which documents should expire and or be replaced. Greg Miller suggested randomization and timing out of scenarios annually. *A motion was duly made by Drew Hooker and properly seconded by Greg Miller to approve the proposed practical exam scenario scheduled to start on 7/1/24, with the addition of a pediatric component in the AEMT and Paramedic testing process. An amendment was made to add pediatric assessment to EMT level. The roll was called finding 12 members in favor, Jeffrey Bagwell absent, the motion passed.*

- *A motion was duly made by David Blevins and properly seconded to authorize the Education Committee to study the necessity of the practical in the long term. After discussion, the roll was called, Chairman Steve Hamby voted no, Jeffrey Bagwell was absent, all other members voted yes. The motion passed.*

ADVERSE ACTION REDUCTION PROPOSAL

- David Blevins presented a plan for a task force to create a group to implement preemptive strategies to assist in preventing providers from situations which may cause them to incur disciplinary action. Ms. Webb Stewart stated that a Task Force could not be used but could be considered a workgroup. *A motion was duly made by Drew Hooker and properly seconded by Jeanie Diden to send request to Leadership Committee to form a workgroup to review ways to reduce incidents of adverse action. A voice vote was called. Shannon Morphis voted no, Jeffrey Bagwell was absent, all others voted in favor, the motion passed.*

A break was taken from 1145-1156.

NEW BUSINESS

- After a significant discussion and several amendments to the motion, *a motion was duly made by David Blevins and properly seconded by Shannon Morphis for all ground ambulance services administering blood products in the field to provide a detailed report to the Clinical Issues Committee twice per year beginning at the June meeting. Report to include a minimum of the following: Indication, time at bedside to administration, complications, time, and quality assurance.* This motion was withdrawn, and *a new motion was duly made by David Blevins that requires all ground agencies administering blood products provide a report to the Clinical Issues Committee for 2 years twice per year from the date the program. The motion passed. A motion was duly made by Greg Miller and properly seconded by Dr. Jared McKinney that the report includes a minimum of the following: Indication, time at bedside to administration, complications, time, and quality assurance for each administration.*

LICENSURE APPROVAL

- Director Ward provided documentation for EMT reciprocity applicant Joseph Williams, as he was unable to attend in person. The applicant was directed to the Board from the office due to background check findings. *A motion for approval was duly made by Stacy Prater and properly seconded by Tim Bell. The roll was called, Jeffrey Bagwell was absent. Jeanie Diden, Drew Hooker, Dr. Jared McKinney, Greg Miller, Joyce Noles, Chris Wheat, Chairman Steve Hamby voted NO. Tim Bell, David Blevins, Stacy Prater, Shannon Morphis, and Jason Tunstall voted YES. The motion FAILED.*

OTHER BUSINESS

- Tim Bell discussed committee meeting attendance and physical quorums. Requests potential solutions for alternate meeting solutions for committees. He mentioned each committee should have a charter or white paper outlining their tasks and duties. He state there should also be reelection of officers at an annual interval. Ms. Webb-Stewart spoke about notifications about vacancies, and such could also benefit from such. She stated she would work on a proposal. A document will be provided to the office for the next meeting agenda.
- *A motion was duly made by Stacy Prater and properly seconded by Blevins to allow the committee to send an email or written report could be sent to the office of EMS to be delivered during the Director's report to the Board, except for in a case that the office makes a request for them to appear due to the complexity of the report. Jeffrey Bagwell was absent, David Blevins voted no, all other members voted yes. The motion passed.*
- *A motion was made David Blevins and properly seconded by Tim Bell motion to place information on website with pathway that is necessary to follow to address the Board, Committee, etc. Jeffrey Bagwell was absent. All others voted in favor. The motion passed.*
- David Blevins brought up the proposed First Responder committee for discussion. Chairman of the Committee on Committees Greg Miller stated that there has been no information brought forth on this previously to necessitate its creation. It was tabled until June so that information can be submitted to the Committee on Committees.
- Ms. Ronda Webb-Stewart stated that there would be no April meeting. The next meeting would be in June.
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PUBLIC COMMENT

- None

The Thursday, March 21, 2024 meeting was adjourned at 1302.