



**Minutes of the  
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES BOARD  
Iris Room and Poplar Room,  
First Floor 665 Mainstream Drive Nashville, TN 37243  
Wednesday, September 17**

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

**September 17, 2025:**

**Iris Room:** <https://tdh.streamingvideo.tn.gov/Mediasite/Play/58843617ca404307be73b8925cd2ea801d>

**Poplar Room:** <https://tdh.streamingvideo.tn.gov/Mediasite/Play/33d719be6385474283591bdc8d48aa071d>

**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.

<i>Board Member's Name</i>	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Board Member's Name</i>	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>
<b>Chairman Steve Hamby</b>	<b>X</b>		<b>Vice-Chairman Greg Miller</b>	<b>X</b>	
<b>Jeffrey Bagwell</b>		<b>X</b>	<b>Shannon Morphis</b>	<b>X</b>	
<b>Tim Bell</b>	<b>X</b>		<b>Joyce Noles</b>	<b>X</b>	
<b>David Blevins</b>	<b>X</b>		<b>Stacy Prater</b>	<b>X</b>	
<b>Jeanie Diden</b> (arrived after case began)	<b>X</b>		<b>Jason Tunstall</b>	<b>X</b>	
<b>Drew Hooker</b>	<b>X</b>		<b>Chris Wheat</b>	<b>X</b>	
<b>Dr. Jared McKinney</b>	<b>X</b>		<b>12 Members Present, 1 Member(s) Absent = Quorum</b>		

**Also, present:**

- Brandon Ward, Director
- Hansel Cook, Assistant EMS Director
- Tory Ferguson, Regulatory Board Administrative Assistant 3
- Russell Gupton, EMS Consultant At-Large
- 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 Shannon Barnhill - Administrative Law Judge, TN Secretary of State – Panel 1
- Honorable Judge Carolyn Reed – Administrative Law Judge, TN Secretary of State – Panel 2
- Court Reporters

## CONTESTED CASES

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

### **Panel 1: George Huzjak, Paramedic License #212433, Docket #17.34-244041A**

- Respondent is represented by attorney Mr. Kevin Snider and TDH is represented by Mr. Tim Peters. After presentations, ***a motion to accept Findings of Fact after wording change in paragraph 3 sentence 3 to read "regional communicator in RMCC rather than charge nurse" by David Blevins and seconded by Dr. Jared McKinney. The motion passed after a roll call vote.***
- ***A motion was made by David Blevins to accept the Conclusions of Law as presented with a second by Drew Hooker. The motion passed after a roll call vote.***
- ***A motion was made by Drew Hooker to accept Disciplinary Action with the following changes: 4-year probation, 8-hour Board approved in-person ethics course, 48-hour Board approved paramedic refresher. All are to be completed within 120 days of approval, cannot be used for renewal or training supplement. The motion passed after a roll call vote. Dr. McKinney voted no.***
- ***A motion was made by David Blevins and seconded by Drew Hooker to accept the Policy Statement excluding the last statement in paragraph 1. The motion passed after a roll call vote.***

This concluded the business for panel 1.

### **Panel 2: Justin Samuel Duncan, AEMT License #213715, Docket #17.34-252512A**

- The respondent is not present. Ms. Smalls is present to represent the TDH. After review and discussion with OGC and Judge Reed, the state wished to proceed in default. ***The motion was made by Joyce Noles and seconded by Stacy Prater to proceed in default. The motion passed unanimously.***
- After presentations, ***a motion to accept Findings of Fact was made by Shannon Morphis and seconded by Chris Wheat. The motion passed after a roll call vote.***
- ***A motion was made by Jason Tunstall and seconded by Chris Wheat to approve the Conclusions of Law. The motion passed after a roll call vote.***
- ***The motion was made by Stacy Prater and seconded by Shannon Morphis for Disciplinary Action of revocation. The motion passed unanimously after a roll call vote.***
- ***Motion by Chris Wheat and seconded by Joyce Noles for approval of a Policy Statement. The motion passed unanimously after a roll call vote.***

### **Panel 2: Jason Lowell Edgar, Paramedic License #36880, Docket #17.34-252381A**

- The respondent is not present. Ms. Smalls is present to represent the TDH. After review and discussion with OGC and Judge Reed, the state wished to proceed in default. ***The motion was made by Chris Wheat and seconded by Jason Tunstall to proceed in default. The motion passed unanimously.***
- After presentations, ***a motion to accept Findings of Fact was made by Jason Tunstall and seconded by Chris Wheat. The motion passed after a roll call vote.***
- ***A motion was made by Chris Wheat and seconded by Jason Tunstall to approve the Conclusions of Law. The motion passed after a roll call vote.***

- ***The motion was made by Stacy Prater and seconded by Chris Wheat for Disciplinary Action of revocation. The motion passed unanimously after a roll call vote.***
- ***Motion by Joyce Noles and seconded by Chris Wheat for approval of a Policy Statement. The motion passed unanimously after a roll call vote.***

**Panel 2: Rodney L. Pickering, Paramedic License #9224, Docket #17.34-252296A**

- The respondent is not present. Ms. Smalls is present to represent the TDH. After review and discussion with OGC and Judge Reed, the state wished to proceed in default. ***The motion was made by Shannon Morphis and seconded by Chris Wheat to proceed in default. The motion passed unanimously.***
- After presentations, ***a motion to accept Findings of Fact was made by Chris Wheat and seconded by Shannon Morphis. The motion passed after a roll call vote.***
- ***A motion was made by Chris Wheat and seconded by Joyce Noles to approve the Conclusions of Law after changing license level to Paramedic. The motion passed after a roll call vote.***
- ***The motion was made by Shannon Morphis and seconded by Stacy Prater for Disciplinary Action of revocation. The motion passed unanimously after a roll call vote.***
- ***Motion by Stacy Prater and seconded by Jason Tunstall for approval of a Policy Statement. The motion passed unanimously after a roll call vote.***

**Panel 2 Consent Order: Nicholas Lee Knight, AEMT License #209582, Case #2023032331.**

- Recommended disciplinary action is 1 month suspension, 3-year probation, Board approved HIPAA course and Board approved 8-hour ethics course. ***A motion to approve was made by Jason Tunstall and seconded by Stacy Prater. The motion passed unanimously after a roll call vote.***

**Panel 2 Consent Order: Travis William Thompson, AEMT License #208737, Case #2021007501.**

- Recommended disciplinary action is 3-year probation and 8-hour ethics course (cannot be used for pay supplement or CEU). ***A motion to approve was made by Stacy Prater and seconded by Jason Tunstall. The motion passed unanimously after a roll call vote.***
- The members mentioned that they believed more documentation should be included in disciplinary actions and potentially in rule of annual training.

This concluded the business for panel 1.

After a one-hour recess, the Board returned to session at 12:48 pm. The Honorable Judge Shannon Barnhill served as the Administrative Law Judge for the remaining case. The Board returned to the normal composition as a single body at this point.

**Paul J. Pecori, Paramedic License #25857, Docket #17.34-250321A**

- The respondent elected to represent himself in the matter. Mr. Tim Peters will represent the department.
- Dr. Jared McKinney recused from this matter.
- After discussion, and deliberation, ***A motion to approve the Findings of Fact was made by Jason Tunstall and second by Chris Wheat. During discussion, Mr. Miller, states that he did not feel the burden of proof was met and there were errors in the document. Mr. Bell stated similar. Mr. Wheat removed his second from the motion. The motion then died from lack of a second. A motion was made by Greg Miller and second by Shannon Morphis to dismiss due to lack of proof of allegations. Greg Miller then rescinded the***

*motion and made a motion to accept paragraph 1 and 2 of the finding of fact with a second by Tim Bell. The roll was called, 11 members in favor and none opposed, with Dr. McKinney recused. The motion passed*

- *A motion by David Blevins and second by Drew Hooker to accept Conclusions of Law number 4 with wording to read "insufficient". The roll was called and the motion passed with one recusal.*
- *A motion by Greg Miller and second by Chris Wheat for no disciplinary action due to insufficient evidence. The motion passed with one recusal.*
- *A motion by Greg Miller and second by Shannon Morphis for a policy statement similarly worded to the disciplinary action statement. The motion passed with one recusal.*
- The contested case hearing concluded at 1357.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*A motion by Joyce Noles and second by David Blevins to approve minutes of June and August meetings. Approved with a voice vote.*

## **COPEC**

- Ms. Oseana Bratton of East TN Children's Hospital provided information on EPIC4KIDS education initiative voluntary pediatric readiness designation levels for EMS service providers. This matter will be reviewed further by OGC prior to further action being taken.

## **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

- Mr. Greg Johnson, Education Committee Chair provided an overview of the 09/16/2025 committee meeting. He provided a copy of the white paper document that was completed to describe the purpose and mission of the Education Committee and its necessity.
- Discussion of EMR level curriculum requirement for mental health training in all initial courses beginning in July 2026 at latest. ***A motion was made by Stacy Prater and second by Drew Hooker to add the Board approved mental health training to the EMR curriculum. The motion passed.***
- A request to allow the antiemetic medication administration by simulation or lab training for the AEMT scope of practice update module was made. ***A motion was made by David Blevins and second by Dr. McKinney to approve simulation or lab for the antiemetic administration. The motion passed.***
- An update to ventilator transport guidelines was presented and discussed. ***A motion was made Drew Hooker and second by David Blevins for approval. After discussion on the 1 year versus 2 year of licensure requirement for a paramedic, the motion passed after a roll call vote. Shannon Morphis voted no.***
- ***A motion for creation of a bridge course development for field initiation and training for currently trained personnel between the Education and Clinical Issues committees by David Blevins and Stacy Prater. The discussion outlined a desire for a single approved ventilator training course. The motion passed.***

The meeting adjourned until 0900 on 9/18/2025.