



**Minutes of the  
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES BOARD  
Thursday, September 19, 2024  
Iris Room at 665 Mainstream Drive, Nashville, Tennessee**

**Day 2 - Thursday, September 19, 2024**

To view a recording of the December 7th meeting, please follow the link below:  
<https://tdh.streamingvideo.tn.gov/Mediasite/Play/d569976cad904fdc914d153fa59684601d>

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

- The meeting was called to order by Chairman Steve Hamby. The roll was called, finding 11 members present and 2 members absent, a quorum was established.

<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>11 Members Present, 2 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  
 Kertyssa Smalls, Senior Associate Counsel – Office of General Counsel  
 The Honorable Judge Michael Begley, Administrative Law Judge, TN Secretary of State

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

- Ms. Morphis mentioned that instructor and Paramedic Stan Whiteway had recently suffered a stroke and requested thoughts and prayers. A moment of silence was observed.

**AIR AMBULANCE**

- Stacy Prater provided a synopsis of the past meeting on 9/17 as the committee chair was not present. No action was required.

**AMBULANCE COMMITTEE**

- No report

## CONTESTED CASE

### **Chad V. Till, License #34014, Case #17.34-221856**

- Jason Tunstall recused himself. A quorum was declared again.
- Tim Peters is representing the TDH and Kevin Snider is representing the respondent.
- The Honorable Judge Michael Begley, Administrative Law Judge, TN Secretary of State was present to oversee the hearing. Judge Begley provided an overview of the process and reviewed the technical record of the case. Mr. Peters presented the notice of hearing and charges to the members. The counsels provided opening statements to the members. Mr. Till was placed under oath and provided testimony to the state and to his defense. The Board members asked questions of the respondent.
- A 10-minute recess was called.
- Mr. Peters called Paramedic Anthony Marzulli as a witness via teams meeting video. He provided testimony for the state and was asked questions by the Board members. Chief Debbie Patterson was also called as a witness by Mr. Peters and was asked questions by both he and Mr. Snider. The Board was then allowed to ask questions. The state and the defense provided closing statements.
- *A motion was made by Jeffrey Bagwell and second by David Blevins to accept Findings of Fact with an amendment to “Acting Lieutenant”. Roll was called, 10 members voted yes, 2 members are absent, Jason Tunstall recused. The motion passed.*
- *A motion was made by David Blevins and second by Jeffrey Bagwell to accept the Conclusions of Law as proposed. Roll was called, 10 members voted yes, 2 members are absent, Jason Tunstall recused. The motion passed.*
- *A motion to approve Disciplinary Action striking #14 was made by Drew Hooker and second by Jeffrey Bagwell. After discussion, roll was called, and votes as follows: Bagwell, Hamby, Hooker, Diden voted Yes. Bell, Blevins, McKinney, Prater, Morphis, and Miller vote no. 2 members are absent, Jason Tunstall recused. The motion failed.*
- *A motion was made by Dr. Jared McKinney and second by Stacy Prater to accept Disciplinary action after striking #11(suspension) and #14 with the rest of the order to remain. After discussion, roll was called, Blevins, Bagwell, Diden, Hooker, and Hamby Voted no. Bell, McKinney, Miller, Morphis, and Prate voted yes. 2 members are absent, Jason Tunstall recused. This constituted a tie and the motion failed.*
- *A motion was made by Drew Hooker and second by Jeanie Diden for Disciplinary Action of 3 months suspension and strike #14. After discussion, roll was called Bagwell, Diden, Hooker, and Hamby voted yes. Bell, Blevins, McKinney, Miller, Morphis, and Prater voted no. 2 members are absent, Jason Tunstall recused. The motion failed.*
- *A motion was made by Greg Miller and second by Dr. Jared McKinney for Disciplinary Action requesting to strike #11, strike #14, and that #15 shall be written to require Paramedic refresher including documentation, scene safety, ethics. (36-hour course). During discussion it was noted that the education cannot be used for the stipend. David Blevins proposed a motion for amendment with a second by Shannon Morphis to amend and add language in #15 that states “these hours will be in-addition to the hours required to maintain the respondent’s license”. Roll was called and 10 votes were in favor, 1 recusal, and 2 absent. Amendment passed. The roll was called for the original motion with the amendments as noted. Roll was called, Jeffrey Bagwell, Jeanie Diden, and Chairman Hamby Voted no. The remaining members voted yes. 2 members are absent, Jason Tunstall recused. the motion passed.*
- *A motion by David Blevins and second by Shannon Morphis to accept a Policy Statement with a change to probation instead of suspension. Roll was called, Jeffrey Bagwell, Jeanie Diden, and Chairman Hamby voted no, the remaining 7 voted yes, 2 members are absent, Jason Tunstall recused. The motion passed.*

A recess for lunch was taken for approximately 1 hour.

### **OGC REPORT/MATTERS**

- Ms. Webb-Stewart provided an OGC report and reviewed the conflict-of-interest policy. She discussed Board members serving on committees, sub-committees, and workgroups. She cautioned the members from serving in these roles or taking on new roles.
- 79 cases are pending. 9 of those are pending resolution by consent.
- Rules for Air and Pay supplement are in process still. Should be complete in early 2025.
- The disciplinary levels, EMT to paramedic, screening panel procedures, and good moral character letters are still in process.
- ***A motion to approve the OGC report by David Blevins and second by Drew Hooker. The motion passed on a voice vote.***
- A draft policy was presented for COMPACT guidelines related to obtainment of licensure. ***A motion was made for adoption by Drew Hooker and second by David Blevins. The motion passed after a voice vote. A motion by Shannon Morphis and second by David Blevins was then made to add the rule to the reciprocity section of the rules in a newly created part B. The motion passed after a voice vote.*** It was noted that all individuals that would be affected by this have 30 days from today to report.
- A draft audit of continuing education/civil monetary penalty policy was provided to the members for review. This policy is for those individuals that do not respond to the monthly audit. It was noted that you would pay a civil penalty and be required to obtain missing hours and then would not be able to use those hours for subsequent renewals. ***A motion was made by Greg Miller and second by Stacy Prater to approve as presented. The motion passed after a voice vote.***
- Discussion of policy/rule change for pilot programs. ***A motion was made by Drew Hooker and second by Jeffrey Bagwell to accept language for proposed rule change with clerical changes. The motion passed with a voice vote.***
- ***A motion was made by David Blevins and second by Jeffrey Bagwell to create a policy for pilots. The motion passed on a voice vote.***
- Discussion of the proposed Disciplinary Matrix. Ms. Webb-Stewart requested input from members at next meeting.

### **LEADERSHIP & ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE**

- Mr. Phil Sanderson, committee chair provided a report to the members. He cited information gathered from a recent mental health survey of providers. He also reiterated that the committee has 3 active workgroups currently undertaking various tasks and research for projects benefiting EMS in TN. There was a motion by Drew Hooker and a second by Greg Miller to research and develop a documentation program. The motion passed on a voice vote.

### **CONSENT ORDER**

- ***Elite Medical Transport Case #202400120 - Proposed discipline of 3-year probation and \$3300 civil penalty. A motion was made by Shannon Morphis and second by Dr. Jared McKinney to accept as written. Roll was called, 11 members voted yes, 2 members are absent. The motion passed.***

### **SUNSET REVIEW**

- Director Ward mentioned the Board was up for sunset review. Ms. Webb-Stewart and Chairman Hamby will be attending meetings in the future. The office has already answered related questions for this process.

### **OTHER DISCUSSION**

- Director Ward provided clarification on education stipend submission dates and the service grant. Director Ward reiterated the EMS office only involvement in the grant process was creation of questions. The procurement department handled the process. The grant reoccurred this year but must be reapproved annually by the legislature if there is funding.

## OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

- ***Request to replace David Bryant of Northeast State will be replaced by Nicholas Santiago on Education Committee. Motion was by Jeffrey Bagwell and second by David Blevins for approval. The motion passed on a voice vote.***
- ***Lynn Sykes of Dyersburg State College was recommended to replace Baker McCool on the Education Committee. Motion was made by Drew Hooker and second by David Blevins to approve. The motion passed on a voice vote.***
- Air Ambulance Committee requested changes for members due to career changes by some members. These changes were tabled until more information can be gathered.
- The Oversight committee reviewed letters of interest and qualifications and then selected 11 members of 13 proposed for the First Responder Committee. 4 members from each grand division with 1 member at-large. The East Grand Division members selected were Scott Boyd of Kingsport FD, Skylar Phillips of Chattanooga FD, Mike Terrill of Knoxville FD, Lee Turner of Jefferson City FD. The Middle Grand Division members selected were Darren Ford of Putnam County EMS, Jamie Layhew of Murfreesboro FD, Eric Compton of Mt. Juliet FD, and Brian Collins of Brentwood FD. Two members were selected for the West Grand Division at this time due to lack of interest. More will be selected at the next meeting. Matt Jones of Jackson FD and Brett Sipes of Dyersburg FD. Jeff Beaman of Gallatin FD was selected to fill the at-large role, as he has previously served East, West, and currently serves Middle Tennessee. ***A motion by David Blevins and second by Jeffrey Bagwell to accept recommendations. The motion passed on a voice vote.***
- ***Policy guidelines for Oversight Committee as well as developing and implementing committees and members was provided to Ms. Webb-Stewart for review.***

## OLD BUSINESS

- David Blevins brought up currently approved psychomotor exam policy review retest policy. Currently you have 3 attempts, and the request was to change it to 6 as previous with registry. ***A motion was made by Drew Hooker and second by Jeanie Diden to return the matter to Education Committee to review. The motion passed on a voice vote.***

## NEW BUSINESS

- No new business
- The members were polled regarding attendance at the September 30 meeting. A balance of the members that would constitute a quorum indicated that they would be present.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

- No one was present or signed up to comment.

The meeting adjourned at 1532.