



**Minutes of the
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES BOARD
Monday, September 30, 2024
Iris Room at 665 Mainstream Drive, Nashville, Tennessee**

To view a recording of the September 30th meeting, please follow the link below:
<https://tdh.streamingvideo.tn.gov/Mediasite/Play/5ab797cd61f943cab7cf3a10c3bfa19a1d>

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 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>11 Members Present, 2 Member(s) Absent = Quorum</i> | | |

Also, present:

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 Richard Murrell, Administrative Law Judge, TN Secretary of State

MOMENT OF SILENCE

- Chairman Hamby announced to the members the recent unexpected death of Paramedic Hoyte Hale, Chief of Dekalb County EMS and Assistant Chief of Smithville Fire Department. Chris Wheat also wished to honor wife, Melissa Wheat, EMT-RN who recently died unexpectedly. The Chair also wished to remember those around the state and others affected by the recent flooding. A moment of silence was then observed in honor and memory of those mentioned.

CONTESTED CASE HEARING

Jonathan Lee, License #215164 17.34-243496a

- Mr. Lee is not present. Ms. Ellen Gose, Assistant Counsel – Office of General Counsel for the TN Dept of Health is representing the state. The attempts at service were presented to the Judge and members for review. The State requested to move forward in default. The Judge reviewed the attempts at service and noted that they had been unsuccessful, and a good faith effort had been made.
- ***A motion was made by David Blevins and second Jeffrey Bagwell by to move forward in default. The motion carried with a voice vote.***
- Ms. Gose provided an opening statement to the Board outlining the charges in the case and related evidence to be presented. The State requests that the respondent’s license be suspended until such time as he meets the requirements of the TNPAP program.
- ***A motion was made by Shannon Morphis and second by Drew Hooker to accept the Finding of Fact as presented. Roll was called, 11 members voted yes, 2 members are absent. The motion passed.***
- ***A motion was made by Drew Hooker and second by Jeffrey Bagwell to accept the Conclusions of Law as presented. Roll was called, 11 members voted yes, 2 members are absent. The motion passed.***
- ***A motion was made by Chris Wheat and second Jason Tunstall by for Disciplinary Action as proposed. Roll was called, 11 members voted yes, 2 members are absent. The motion passed.***
- ***A motion was made by Jeffrey Bagwell and second by Chris Wheat to accept the Policy Statement as written. Roll was called, 11 members voted yes, 2 members are absent. The motion passed.***

This concluded the contested cases.

Short recess

CONSENT ORDERS

- **Hunter Moffett License # 216918, Case # 2024000411** – Proposed discipline 3-year probation and \$700 civil penalty. ***A motion was made by Jeff Bagwell and second by Drew Hooker to accept as proposed. Roll was called, 11 members voted yes, 2 members are absent. The motion passed.***
- **Jennifer Nixon, License #33410, Case #2023019461** – Proposed discipline of 3-year probation. ***A motion was made by Jason Tunstall and second by Chris Wheat to accept as proposed. Roll was called, 11 members voted yes, 2 members are absent. The motion passed.***
- **Joy E. Beckley, License #216738, Case #2024002971** – Proposed discipline of 3-year probation and \$1700 civil penalty. Drew Hooker recused from the case. ***A motion was made by Dr. Jared McKinney and second by Jeffrey Bagwell to accept. Roll was called, 10 members voted yes, 1 recusal, and 2 members are absent. The motion passed.***
- **Justin Duckett, License #34791, Case #2023011101** – Proposed discipline of 3-year probation. Jason Tunstall recused from the case. ***A motion was made by Drew Hooker and second by Stacy Prater to accept. Roll was called, 10 members voted yes, 1 recusal, and 2 members are absent. The motion passed.***
- **Richard Corkan, License #36739, Case # 2021029331** – Proposed discipline of TNPAP. Chris Wheat recused. ***A motion was made by Jeffrey Bagwell and second by Dr. Jared McKinney. Roll was called, 11 members voted yes, 2 members are absent. The motion passed.***
- **Sarah E. Romine, License #214716, Case #2021019751** – Proposed discipline of revocation. ***A motion was made by Jeffrey Bagwell and second by Jason Tunstall to accept as proposed. Roll was called, 11 members voted yes, 2 members are absent. The motion passed.***
- **John Fields, License #40682, Case #2023034371** – Proposed discipline of 3-year probation. Jason Tunstall recused from the case. ***A motion was made by Jeffrey Bagwell and second by Shannon Morphis to accept. Roll was called, 10 members voted yes, 1 recusal, and 2 members are absent. The motion passed.***

CLARIFICATION ON DISASTER AID

- David Blevins provided communication from the Red Cross regarding out of state disaster related assistance from EMS workers and there was a discussion about the ability of the Red Cross to provide out of state assistance with

healthcare providers. Assistant Director Cook stated that this would be covered under executive order and would be handled through the channels at TEMA or through the Commissioner of Health.

DISCIPLINARY MATRIX DISCUSSION

- There was a lengthy discussion about the disciplinary process and its many facets and how to best approach the process for the EMS Board. Ms. Webb-Stewart provided a copy of a proposed disciplinary matrix to the Board members for review and general discussion. A brief 10-minute recess was taken. Ms. Webb Stewart walked through the process from start (receipt of complaint) to the determination of discipline and the steps between. The desire for this process is to decrease backlog and contested cases by using the screening panels, obtain more consent orders, and reduce contested cases that cause delays. Ms. Webb-Stewart provided a sample of the Board of Pharmacy disciplinary scope/severity matrix. Mr. Hooker stated that potential/direct patient harm should weigh into the equation. Education and deterrent to increase accountability to providers was noted to be important. ***A motion was made by Drew Hooker and second by Jason Tunstall to request the education committee to create an in-person course index/catalog to assist with the disciplinary process. After discussion, roll was called, Dr. Jared McKinney and David Blevins voted no, the 9 members voted yes, 2 were absent. The motion passed.*** There was discussion about potential disciplines for various offenses and the process for each.
- ***A motion was made by Jeffrey Bagwell and second by Shannon Morphis to approve proposed changes to the matrix. The motion passed on a voice vote.***

REVIEW DRAFT POLICY GUIDELINES

- Ms. Webb-Stewart presented a draft copy of proposed policies as related to the various committees, workgroups, and taskforces that report to the Board. Assistant Director Cook noted that under the ‘Office of EMS’ responsibilities, that the office would not take minutes for these committees. Mr. Hooker also state that appointments/elections would be in March rather than September. ***A motion was made by Jason Tunstall and second by Jeffrey Bagwell to approve the guidelines as presented after striking the section regarding taking of minutes by the office and change September to March. Drew Hooker abstained from the vote. The motion passed on a voice vote.***

The meeting was adjourned at 1420.