

## Board Meeting Minutes

April 7, 2023

**APPROVED**

**6/2/2023**

### Board Members Present

Dr. Joel Hornung  
Director David Adams  
Dr. Greg Faimon - virtual  
Director Deb Kaufman-virtual  
Chief Shane Pearson  
Director John Ralston-virtual  
Dr. Martin Sellberg  
Sen. Michael Fagg

### Board Members Absent

Sen. Faust-Goudeau  
Rep. Stephanie Clayton  
Rep. John Eplee  
Director Jeri Wheatley

### Counsel

Sam Feather

### Guests

Craig Isom	Med Trans
Dave Johnston	Reno Co EMS
Charles Foat	Johnson Co CC
Angela Hamilton	Sedgwick Co EMS
Chrissy Bartel	Norwich EMS
Dave Beam	Dickinson Co EMS
Kara Lawrence	Pawnee Co EMS
Jason Zink	Pawnee Co EMS
Kent Vosburg	Junction City FD
Jason White	MARCER
Brandon Beck	Lyon Co/Emporia
Pete Rogers	Phillips Co EMS
Monica Heller	Reno Co EMS
John Hultgren	Dickinson Co EMS

Virtual attendees  
listed at the  
bottom.

### Staff Present

Joseph House, Exec. Director  
Suzette Smith  
Terry Lower  
James Kennedy  
Carman Allen  
  
Chad Pore – virtual  
Jim Reed - virtual

### Call to Order

Chairman Hornung called the Board Meeting to order on Friday, April 7, 2023 at 9:02 a.m.

Chairman Hornung called for a motion to approve the minutes.

***Dr. Sellberg moved to approve the February 3, 2023 minutes. Director Adams seconded the motion. No further discussion. No opposition noted. The motion carried.***

### Office Update

Chairman Hornung called on Director House to give the Office Update. Director House reported the following.

- Director House stated that the legislature adjourned at about 5:00 a.m. today. They will return on April 26<sup>th</sup> for the veto session and meeting Pro Forma on April 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>.

They are planning to be done by the end of the month. The House introduced 470 bills and the Senate introduced 325 bills. There are four bills that Director House has been following. Senate Bill 66 requires that we provide a paper-based certificate and use a centralized licensed system that must be implemented by 1/21/25. We are already doing this today. The bill passed 116-5 in the House and 37-3 in the Senate. The Secretary of Administration must develop a uniform and singular license verification portal at no cost to agencies or licensees. House Bill 2015 is regarding court-ordered testing of infectious disease by agency head or designee, which passed 117-6 in the House and 32-8 in the Senate. House Bill 2014 eliminates the occupation license for Instructor Coordinator and is effective upon publication in the register. It will change the statutory membership of the Board from being an Instructor Coordinator to actively involved in teaching initial courses of instruction for certification as an EMS provider. The bill passed 122-1 in the House and 40-0 in the Senate. House Bill 2184 which includes our agency budget was passed without the salary enhancement 79-44 in the House and 24-12 in the Senate. The Senate has included our enhancement request for review at Omnibus. The budget bill also included 7.9 million dollars for Medicare reimbursement, putting it at 100% of the Medicare allowable cost. We are taking the next step and requesting a Governor's Budget Amendment for the salary enhancement.

- There are 9,758 EMS providers in Kansas with 10,163 eligible to work on ambulances, which includes 405 nurses and that is up 214 providers since February. EMR are at 220, which is up 6 providers. EMTs are 5,796, which is up 150 providers. AEMTs are at 895 which is up 20 providers. Paramedics are at 2857 which is up 38 providers. Of the 405 nurses, 17 are APRN's and 388 are RN's.
- Director House reported that Initial applications are taking 192 hours, or 8 days to process with 336 having been submitted and 182 completed, the amount of time is down from the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter. Non-Kansas Credential applications are taking 341 hours, or 14.2 days to process and 186 have been submitted. The processing time is down from the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter. Reinstatement applications are taking 177 hours, or 7.4 days to process and 218 have been submitted since January 1, 2023. The processing time is up from the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter. Criminal History Record Check applications are taking 480 hours, or 20 days to process. Waiting on fingerprints and waiver agreements to be sent to us by the applicant is what causes the delays. KBI turnaround is usually the next day once we give the green light and has been as quick as 25 minutes. Applications for Retro-Active approval for Continuing Education in the first quarter were at 194, with 68 being denied. The majority of denials are because the hours are already CAPSE approved. It takes time for staff to go through these applications. Many applications have incomplete documentation or are not EMS based courses.
- Director House reported that 107 service renewals have been submitted thus far. Of those, 65 have been issued, 31 have been started, and 11 are being reviewed.
- There have been 65 investigation cases this year already and a typical year usually sees 100. Only twenty of the cases are external complaints and 45 are related to technical issues.

That concluded the Office Update.

[Old Business](#)

Chairman Hornung called on Director House to give the Old Business update. Director House reported the following.

- In October 2022 Director House was directed to accept comments regarding the NASEMSO Model Clinical Guidelines for Care. The guidelines would be an evidence based document for determination of appropriate care. No comments have been received since October of 2022. The model clinical guidelines are not written to be protocols but as a resource.

***Vice Chairman Pearson moved to adopt the NASEMSO Model EMS Clinical Guidelines. Director Adams seconded the motion. No further discussion. No opposition noted. The motion carried.***

- The proposed Guidance Document for an Ambulance Staffing Variance was discussed. Director House was directed last year to formalize a single provider guidance document. This Legislative Session Senate Bill 212 was introduced and was intended as a single provider staffing bill, but the bill would not necessarily have achieved that goal. The Board has had a variance available for three years now and there has never been anyone request to use it. The Guidance Document for the proposed ambulance staffing variance, once the variance request is approved, provides for a single EMS provider during 911 or during an interfacility transport if the level of care required is no higher than an EMT and the patient is stable. The proponents to SB 212 included Anderson County EMS, Rush County EMS, Miltonvale EMS, a pastor from Pawnee County, and the Kansas Legislative Policy Group. Entities that remained neutral regarding this bill included the American Heart Association and the League of Kansas Municipalities. The opponents included the Kansas Emergency Medical Services Association and the Board of Emergency Medical Services. Director House believes the proposed guidance document for an ambulance staffing variance will meet the changes being sought in the bill by Miltonvale EMS and Rush County EMS. He did meet with a subgroup of KEMSA and has proposed two changes to the document. Those changes were to replace ‘hearing’ with ‘meeting’ in Subsection B and add language that only requires a meeting if the variance is longer than 12 months or more than one request is made in any 18 month period. Director House was asked about the difficulty in requesting a variance and he stated that it was pretty easy to complete. There was a discussion involving the safety of just having one provider on the ambulance. Dr. Sellberg said we identified staffing issues five plus years or so ago and the discussion has been all about safely being able to do this. The amount of time this issue has been discussed, especially within this meeting for an item to resolve the issues voiced, demonstrates the importance seen by the Board on moving forward and he asked to make sure the minutes appropriately reflected this discussion to assure the public it is not being taken frivolously.

***Dr. Sellberg moved to amend the Guidance Document for an Ambulance Staffing Variance to replace the word ‘hearing’ with ‘meeting’ and requiring a meeting if the variance is for longer than 12 months or if there is more than one request in any 18 month period. Director Adams seconded the motion. Senator Fagg asked if Dr. Eplee had expressed an opinion. Director House stated he had not talked to him specifically about this. No opposition noted. The motion carried.***

***Dr. Sellberg moved to adopt the Ambulance Staffing Variance Guidance Document as amended. Director Adams seconded the motion. No further discussion. No opposition noted. The motion carried.***

That concluded the Old Business report.

### **New Business**

Chairman Hornung called on Director House to discuss the New Business. Director House reported the following.

- There were 48 applications for the KRAF grant for a total of 1.3 million dollars. Twenty-five agencies were selected by the Assistance Review Committee (ARC) for funding with 76% of the grants going to frontier, rural and densely settled areas. He clarified that these grants are not to be used for maintenance of existing equipment and that a power cot and power loader should be included in the purchase of a new ambulance. Funding for the grant comes from 2.23% of fines collected from speeding tickets.

***Director Adams moved to accept the ARC Committee's recommendation for the KRAF grant awards. Vice Chairman Pearson seconded the motion. No further discussion. No opposition noted. The motion carried.***

- The Board was asked to provide the names of three individuals for appointment to the Kansas Fire Service Training Commission. Vice Chairman Pearson said he would abstain from the vote but encouraged individuals to be involved in the Commission.

***Dr. Sellberg moved to recommend Eric Voss, Kent Vosburg, and Dwayne Yager. Director Ralston seconded the motion. No further discussion. No opposition noted. The motion carried.***

That concluded the New Business report.

### **Public Comment**

Senator Fagg asked about the process of reciprocity with other states, its presence in Kansas EMS, and prevalence. Director House replied that we do, and the application is called Recognition of Non-Kansas Credentials and that we receive and process numerous.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:53 a.m.

### **Virtual Guests**

Troy Armstrong  
Alex Bergstrom

Chris Cannon  
John Cota  
Brad Klein  
Anderson Lowe  
Jamie Miller  
Jonathan Mitchell  
Mike Morgan  
Kevin Nelson  
Megan Niblock  
Daniel Rhodes  
Jesse Taylor  
Frank Williams