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Dr. Joel E Hornung, Chair
Joseph House, Executive Director

Laura Kelly, Governor

Board Meeting Minutes

August 1, 2025

APPROVED

10/3/2025

Board Members Present

Director David Adams
Rep. Stephanie Clayton
Terry David
Rep. Robyn Essex
Sen. Michael Fagg-Virtual
Dr. Joel Hornung
Chief Shane Pearson
Director John Ralston-Virtual
Dr. Martin Sellberg
Director Jeri Wheatley

Guests

Scott Sare
Jerrad Webb
Chrissy Bartel
Dave Johnston
Brandon Beck
Frank Williams
Monica Heller
Kevin Joles
Angela Fuller
Melissa
McCaslin

JoCo MedAct
Kearny Co EMS
Norwich EMS
Reno Co
Lyon Co
Butler Co EMS
Reno Co EMS
Olathe Fire
Sedgwick Co
EagleMed/AMR

Staff Present

Joseph House, Exec. Director
James Kennedy
Terry Lower
James Reed
Mary-Elaine Skinner
Suzette Smith

Board Members Absent

Dr. Gregory Faimon
Sen. Faust-Goudeau

Attorney

Call to Order

Chairman Hornung called the Board Meeting to order on Friday, August 1, 2025 at 9:01 a.m.

Chairman Hornung called for a motion to approve the minutes.

Terry David moved to approve the June 6, 2025 minutes, with corrections. Director Wheatley seconded the motion. No further discussion. No opposition noted. The motion carried.

Public Comments

Chrissy Bartel, President of KEMSA and Director of a small rural volunteer agency, shared her comments (attached).

Monica Heller, of Reno County EMS, is on the Planning Board for Women in EMS. They will be holding a Women's First Response Symposium on September 19th, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. It will be located at Tony's Pizza Event Center in Salina and the cost is \$25. Kansas Fire Marshalls Office, Highway Patrol, EMS representation and the Kansas Fire and Rescue Training Institute will be included.

Committee Reports

Chairman Hornung called for reports from the committees.

There were no decisions requiring affirmation from the Executive Committee or variances.

Director Wheatley reported that they heard five cases on the consent agenda and accepted the staff recommendations for all five. One instructor was fined for not having their roster submitted within seven days and they received a civil fine. One individual submitted an application and indicated a revocation of a professional license. Evidence indicated that the license was revoked for unprofessional conduct and excessive force. They allowed the processing of the application and suspended the individual's certification until August 2028 to align with other suspensions.

Office Update

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

- Director House stated that our agency was fully staffed for about 10 minutes, as Chad Pore left our agency to join ImageTrend. The states Mr. Pore covers will include Kansas.
- The Compliance team consists of James Reed as Director, Compliance Officers Ashley Baxter in central Kansas and Sam Bragdon in northwest Kansas, and DeeDra Sheppard as Administrative Specialist. They will conduct investigations, inspections and audits.
- The Issuance team is in their busy time of year with renewals and includes Mary Elaine Skinner as the Director, Kim Cott and Amanda Noble as Issuance Specialists, and Terry Lower as the Administrative Specialist. They handle applications for certification, renewals, classes, and BLS exams.
- The Research and Analysis team has the vacant Director position, James Kennedy as the Software Systems Analyst, Mamunur Rashid as the Program and Policy Analyst and Teri Abernathy as the Administrative Specialist. Director House stated that Mr. Rashid comes to us from Emporia State University and is doing a phenomenal job learning.
- There has been a great deal of orientation with new staff and it is great to see how receptive EMS has been. Staff are working on who to direct questions to within the office.
- Director House reported that we have had 300 skills exams reviewed at nine testing sites.
- All yearend financial reports are complete, and we are starting into the audit phase.
- Processing times for applications are dropping. Director House gave a shout out to staff.

- Director House attended Region meetings for I, II, IV, and MARCER in June. He also had mobile testing in Phillipsburg, Norwich and Ulysses.
- Director House chaired the NASEMO in Kentucky in June.
- Director House hosted the KEMSIS Users Group, Legislative Meeting in July, and met with Salina Regional related to interfacility transfers.
- Director House attended the quarterly meeting for the Commission on Accreditation of Medical Transport Systems, for which he is a Board Member. The National EMS Memorial Service was held in conjunction with that meeting. Director House wanted to thank the Kansas Honor Guard members who participated. They were from Sedgwick Co, Lyon Co and City of Emporia, Sedgwick Co EMS, and Lyon Co/Emporia Fire. He added that we have a Kansas EMS Memorial on the 10th floor, directly across from our office. We recently added a plaque for Justin Lauppe, Paramedic of Butler County, who passed away due to a cardiac event during a call. Formerly, KEMTA provided the plaques, but they have discontinued doing so. It was asked if KEMSA would like to help with providing plaques.
- Director House went to Minnesota to work at ImageTrend on projects.

Old Business

Chairman Hornung called for a report on Old Business.

- Director House shared that K.A.R. 109-11-8, regarding the seven-day notification, has gone to the Division of Budget and is waiting approval for the economic impact statement and will be published for public comment. Six regulations were sent to the Department of Administration. Five were stamped and ready, but one is held up needing grammatical changes. He will meet with them soon to get it knocked out.
- The memo put forth on single staffing has been converted into a Guidance Document on interpretation of the statute moving forward.
- Yesterday, in the Planning and Operations meeting, the Drive to Zero campaign sponsored by the Department of Transportation was discussed. Specifically, the Crash Data Dashboard and the errors and inconsistencies contained therein. Director House reached out to KDOT to help them strengthen this tool. The air ambulances information was drastically incorrect. The data is coming from Accident reports and not KEMSIS and does not include clinical data. It was a five-year study covering 2019-2023 but only included 7% of crashes that occurred due to lack of data. It included the following:
 - Interval 1-When crash occurred to time reported to EMS. The average was 10 minutes.
 - Interval 2-Time EMS notified to arrival of an ambulance. The average was also 10 minutes, but the EMS data shows 8 minutes.
 - Interval 3- Arrival on scene to delivery to hospital. The average was 32 minutes. That would be a problem IF you assumed the patient was being transported to the nearest hospital. However, there is a system in place that the patient is taken to the “right” facility the first time. If they take them to the nearest facility and then have to transport them to another facility it adds 90 minutes or more to the transport time. There may not be a way to address this component. It was asked if time on scene could be determined and Director House said we had that information, but it probably would not be separated out on the Dashboard.

- For the Education Incentive Grant we budgeted \$375,000 for recruitment, retention and continuing education. This grant is for rural and frontier counties and densely settled counties and cities. The grant requires the recipient of an EMR, EMT or AEMT grant to serve 12 consecutive months and provide a minimum of 20 hours of service per month to the agency that sponsored them. The Paramedic grant recipients must serve 24 consecutive months with a minimum of 20 hours per month to the agency that sponsored them. This year there was \$200,000 that went unused. It is unclear why it is not being utilized. Director House is addressing this at region meetings. The excess funds will roll over to the next year. Director Wheatley suggested the Kansas Promise Grant, which pays 100%, may be affecting the use of EIG funds. Director House stated that we expected an impact from the Kansas Promise Grant, just not this much. We want to market this and will work with military liaisons as well.
- Guidance Document 2025-A has already been approved and no action is required. Guidance Document 2025-B, regarding single staffing for counties of a population of less than 30,000, was discussed at the last meeting and needs to be addressed.

Director Wheatley moved to approve Guidance Document 2025-B. Terry David seconded the motion. No further discussion. No opposition noted. The motion carried.

New Business

Chairman Hornung called on Director House to report on New Business.

- Director House thanked those that traveled to Salina for the Legislative meeting and Chief Pearson for securing the site. A couple of items were assigned to committees, but there were not a lot of major concerns.
- Director Wheatley gave the report for the EETC. They discussed four items from the legislative meeting. Scott Sare from Johnson County MedAct wanted to discuss legal recognition. He stated that 40% of their applicants were not certified in any state. The data provided in the Board Brief contradicts that. The remaining three items concerned the use of portfolios which could lead to the sunset of the BLS exam. The committee thought it was a good idea to continue to explore this as there is no obstacle to the programs using the portfolio. Director Wheatley thought it was a great discussion.
- Chief Pearson gave the report for the Planning and Operations committee. K.A.R 109-2-6 came back to the meeting from the June meeting. There was opposition from some groups regarding levels of service. There was a motion to eliminate section (b) but it failed due to lack of a 2nd and no action was taken. Chief Pearson asked Director House to provide some background information regarding this regulation. He stated that in 2021 this topic came forward as part of a legislative meeting. The topic was the need for graduation within ambulance services, so that certain services and certain levels don't need to have regulations that are applicable to all. The other topic that came up was behavioral health and secure transport. The topic came back to Planning and Operations and they asked how it should be prioritized. They were instructed that it was the utmost priority. The Board asked for a plan, and step one was to eliminate the requirement for 24/7 services. The next step was to identify what could be eliminated for certain types of transport, ie medical shuttle. Subsection (b) only adds levels of service. Nowhere do we say we will regulate, and it does not broaden the Board's authority. Representative Clayton wants to leave it as is.

Representative Essex moved to strike subsection (b). Dr. Sellberg seconded the motion. Chairman Hornung said this has been through Board approval twice. No further discussion. No opposition noted. The motion carried.

Terry David made a motion to move forward in the process with K.A.R. 109-2-6 as amended. Dr. Sellberg seconded the motion. No further discussion. No opposition noted. The motion carried.

- K.A.R. 109-2-7(a) - staffing of ground ambulance services was discussed. There were no comments or opposition from Planning and Operations Committee.

Chief Pearson made a motion to move K.A.R. 109-2-7(a) into the process as written. Director Wheatley seconded the motion. No further discussion. No opposition noted. The motion carried.

- K.A.R. 109-3-4 regarding EMT authorized activities, in particular in reference to an AEMT starting a saline lock and handing off to an EMT for transport. Scott Sare, of Johnson County MedAct, would like the Board to allow an EMT to transport with saline lock or add to local protocols. The Planning and Operations Committee would like to move the discussion of this topic to the MAC in addition to eliminating the global term of electrolytes and replace with potassium chloride or calcium chloride and add acetaminophen.
- K.A.R. 109-2-11 Standards and staffing for air ambulances was discussed. Heather Scruton from Children's Mercy Hospital offered to answer any questions. It was also presented to KanAAMS and they had no objections.

Chief Pearson made a motion to move K.A.R. 109-2-11 through the regulation change process. Dr. Sellberg seconded the motion. No further discussion. No opposition noted. The motion carried.

The committee finished up with Region and Association updates. The KEMSA conference starts next week.

The meeting adjourned at 10:49 a.m.