



**STATE BOARD OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL, FIRE, AND TRANSPORTATION SERVICES
DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
OHIO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

**MEETING MINUTES
April 17, 2019**

~FINAL~

Board Meeting Date and Location: Wednesday, April 17, 2019, Ohio Department of Public Safety, 1970 West Broad Street, Conference room 1106, Columbus, Ohio 43223.

Board Members Present: Thomas Allenstein, Kent Appelhans, Karen Beavers, Herb de la Porte, David DeVore, Geoff Dutton, Patrick Ferguson, Dr. Richard George, Deanna Harris, Ruda Jenkins, Aaron Jennings, Susan Kearns, Mark Resanovich, Julie Rose, Dr. Hamilton Schwartz, George Snyder, Dr. Glen Tinkoff, Jason Walsh and Dudley Wright.

Board Members Absent: Dr. Thomas Tallman

DPS and EMS Staff Members Present: Jean Booze, Beverly Cooper, Dr. Carol Cunningham, Joel Demory, Dave Fiffick, Melvin House, Valerie Koker, Ellen Owens, Kris Patalita, Bryan Reardon, Joseph Stack, Rob Wagoner Patrick Williams, and Michael Wise.

Assistant Attorney General: Lidia Mowad

Public Present: none

EMFTS Board Meeting

Welcome and Introduction

The meeting began at 10:04 a.m.

Roll Call

Mr. Thomas Allenstein	Present	Ms. Susan Kearns	Absent
Mr. Kent Appelhans (V.Chair)	Absent	Mr. Mark Resanovich	Present
Ms. Karen Beavers	Present	Ms. Julie Rose	Present
Mr. Herb de la Porte	Present	Dr. Hamilton Schwartz	Present
Mr. David DeVore	Present	Mr. George B. Snyder	Present
Mr. Geoff Dutton	Present	Dr. Thomas Tallman	Absent
Mr. Patrick Ferguson	Present	Dr. Glen Tinkoff	Present
Dr. Richard George	Absent	Mr. Kevin Uhl	Present
Ms. Deanna Harris	Present	Mr. Jason Walsh	Present
Ms. Ruda Jenkins	Present	Mr. Dudley Wright II (Chair)	Present
Mr. Aaron Jennings	Present		

Open Forum

Executive Director House introduced Thomas Stickrath, Director of the Ohio Department of Public Safety. Director Stickrath thanked the EMFTS Board members for their service to Ohio and stated that he looks forward to working with the Board in the years to come.

Mr. Wright inquired if there were any guests who would like to address the Board. No other guests were present.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Wright requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda items that were distributed prior to the meeting including the February 12, 2019 EMFTS Board retreat meeting minutes, the February 13, 2019 EMFTS Board retreat meeting minutes, February 14, 2019 EMFTS Board meeting minutes, the Certificates of Accreditation, the February 90-Day Extension requests, the March 90-Day Extension requests, the February 2019 EMS Certifications and the March 2019 EMS Certifications.

It was noted that the Certificates of Approval were pulled from the Consent Agenda and will be presented during the EMS Education Section report.

Mr. Allenstein suggested corrections to page 8 of the February 14, 2019 EMFTS Board meeting, two motions states that Mr. Wright abstained and where it should be Mr. Allenstein.

ACTION: Motion to approve the Consent Agenda items that were distributed prior to the meeting including the February 14, 2019 EMFTS Board meeting minutes with correction on page 8, the motion Mr. Wright abstained; change to Mr. Allenstein, the February 12, 2019 Board retreat meeting minutes, the February 13, 2019 EMFTS Board retreat meeting minutes, the Certificates of Accreditation, the February 90-Day Extension requests, the March 90-Day Extension requests, the February 2019 EMS Certifications and the March 2019 EMS Certifications.

Mr. Allenstein – First. Mr. Snyder – Second. None opposed. None abstained. **Motion approved.**

Summary Suspension and Report and Recommendations

Mr. Wright introduced himself as the Chair of the State Board of Emergency Medical, Fire, and Transportation Services. The proceedings were called to order at 10:12 a.m. on April 17, 2019 at the Ohio Department of Public Safety, 1970 West Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio.

Roll Call

Mr. Thomas Allenstein	Present	Ms. Susan Kearns	Absent
Mr. Kent Appelhans (V.Chair)	Absent	Mr. Mark Resanovich	Present
Ms. Karen Beavers	Present	Ms. Julie Rose	Present
Mr. Herb de la Porte	Present	Dr. Hamilton Schwartz	Present
Mr. David DeVore	Present	Mr. George B. Snyder	Present
Mr. Geoff Dutton	Present	Dr. Thomas Tallman	Absent
Mr. Patrick Ferguson	Present	Dr. Glen Tinkoff	Present
Dr. Richard George	Absent	Mr. Kevin Uhl	Present
Ms. Deanna Harris	Present	Mr. Jason Walsh	Present
Ms. Ruda Jenkins	Present	Mr. Dudley Wright II (Chair)	Present
Mr. Aaron Jennings	Present		

It was noted for the record that a majority of the members of the Board are present.

EMS Report and Recommendations

- **EMS Case No. 2015-323-E300, Kaine J. O'Malley, Certification No. 130603**
- **EMS Case No. 2017-637-E300, Nathaniel D. Knierien, Certification No. 138263**
- **EMS Case No. 2018-623-E100, Bill L. Bitters, Certification No. 141184**

Mr. Wright recognized Assistant Attorney General Lidia C. Mowad for the purpose of providing a brief synopsis of the case and the recommendation for disciplinary action.

EMS Report and Recommendation Synopsis

- **EMS Case No. 2015-323-E300, Kaine J. O'Malley, Certification No. 130603.**
Mr. O'Malley failed to complete continuing education hours and failed to submit sufficient proof of continuing education hours. He was under a Consent Agreement for previous non-compliance with the continuing education requirements from 2015. This matter came to hearing on December 10, 2018 and the Hearing Examiner recommended that the Board either refuse to renew or suspend renewal for 90 days. This recommendation is based on the following facts with the two options. Mr. O'Malley opted to enter into a Consent Agenda with the Board in 2015. He had 3 years from 2015 until 2018 to complete the required education. Upon renewal he attested that he had completed all of the requirements. The Division followed-up on the mandatory audit and found that Mr. O'Malley did not complete the required 40 hours. Once Mr. O'Malley was given a Notice of Opportunity for hearing he rushed to complete all 40 hours in the month of December, right before his December 10, 2018 hearing. He had insufficient evidence at the hearing; however, he was given an additional chance to supplement the record with his required proof. He submitted proof that was dated immediately before and after the hearing date to become compliant. The recommendation is to refuse to renew his EMT certificate for failure to complete continuing education hours and failure to submit sufficient proof.
- **EMS Case No. 2017-637-E300, Nathaniel D. Knierien, Certification No. 138263.**
Mr. Knierien failed to pay a fine that he agreed to pay in a prior 2017 Consent Agreement based on non-compliance with the continuing education requirements. This matter came to hearing on December 14, 2018 and the Hearing Examiner recommended that the renewal application be denied because he voluntarily agreed to pay the fine. Since the hearing and the issuance of the Report and Recommendation, Mr. Knierien contacted the Division and indicated his preference to forfeit his certificate due to his inability to pay the fine. The recommendation is to permanently revoke Mr. Knierien's EMT certification.
- **EMS Case No. 2018-623-E100, Bill L. Bitters, Certification No. 141184.**
Mr. Bitters is a certified EMT; however, the Board summarily suspended his certificate at the October 2018 meeting. The fire chief reported to the Division of EMS that Mr. Bitters is registered as a Tier I sex offender in Noble County. The subsequent investigation by the Division revealed that Mr. Bitters had two felony convictions for importuning and gross sexual imposition. These convictions were the result of Mr. Bitters providing alcohol to numerous juveniles and then making sexual comments and coercing two juvenile girls into a trailer where he solicited sexual favors for providing the alcohol. A request for hearing was made and was held on December 21, 2018. A report and recommendation affirmed the summary suspension because Mr. Bitters pled guilty to and was convicted of all of the above and is registered as a Tier I sex offender and attested on his renewal applications that he did not have any convictions. The recommendation is to permanently revoke Mr. Bitters' EMT certification.

EMS Goldmans

These proceedings were held before the Board pursuant to Goldman v. State Medical Board of Ohio where the respondents did not properly request a hearing in the cases. The individuals named did not have the ability to present written or oral testimony; however, they may be present to hear the proceedings and outcome.

All Board members received the sworn affidavits and accompanying exhibits for the Goldman proceedings from the EMS investigators. The affidavits contained the evidence and testimony upon which was deliberated.

There were five adjudications. The proceedings were in the matters of:

- ***EMS Case No. 2017-145-BE100, Joseph M. Ruhlin, Certificate No. 96078***
- ***EMS Case No. 2017-161-BE100, Jason M. Zehe, Certificate No. 155454***
- ***EMS Case No. 2017-364-E100, Tami K. Ferris, Certificate No. 127185***
- ***EMS Case No. 2018-99-BE100, Enrique D. Green, Certificate No. 154527***
- ***EMS Case No. 2018-358-BE100, Edward C. Harden, Certificate No. 132753***

Mr. Wright recognized Assistant Attorney General Lidia C. Mowad for the purpose of providing a brief synopsis of the case and the recommendation for disciplinary action.

EMS Goldmans Synopsis

- ***EMS Case No. 2017-145-BE100, Joseph M. Ruhlin, Certificate No. 96078.***
Mr. Ruhlin is a certified Emergency Medical Technician. On or about March 27, 2017 the Division became aware of a media report that the Respondent had been charged with felony theft for stealing union funds while acting as the union treasurer. On January 30, 2018, in the Summit County Court of Common Pleas, Mr. Ruhlin pled guilty to and was convicted of Tampering with Records, a third-degree felony. He was sentenced to two years in prison and restitution to the union fund in the amount of \$398,497.77. A Notice for Opportunity for Hearing was sent via certified mail on December 24, 2018; however, Mr. Ruhlin did not request a hearing. Due to the foregoing conviction of two felonies, the recommendation is that the Board permanently revoke Mr. Ruhlin's EMT certificate.
- ***EMS Case No. 2017-161-BE100, Jason M. Zehe, Certificate No. 155454.***
Mr. Zehe is a certified Emergency Medical Technician. On March 25, 2017, Mr. Zehe self-reported that he had been convicted for domestic violence. After opening an investigation, the Division discovered the convictions in the Mentor Municipal Court for domestic violence and violation of protection order. In the Lake County Court of Common Pleas he was convicted of violating a protection order and in another case he was convicted of domestic violence and violating a protection order. These all involved interactions with Mr. Zehe's spouse and he only disclosed the misdemeanor domestic violence conviction. A Notice of Opportunity for Hearing was sent on April 18, 2018 via certified mail. He did not request a hearing. Due to the foregoing, the recommendation is that the Board permanently revoke Mr. Zehe's EMT certificate.
- ***EMS Case No. 2017-364-E100, Tami K. Ferris, Certificate No. 127185.***
Ms. Ferris is a certified Emergency Medical Technician. She submitted a renewal on January 1, 2018. The Division received information from her employer about a conviction. After an investigation the Investigation Unit discovered that Ms. Ferris plead guilty and was convicted of conveyance of drugs of abuse onto grounds of a specified governmental facility, a third-degree felony in Scioto County Court of Common Pleas. Ms. Ferris's conviction was due to her passing balloons of oxycodone to an inmate at the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility.

Ms. Ferris contacted the Division after her release from prison, claiming she had not received the notice. A new Notice of Opportunity for a Hearing was sent to a new address that she provided that was delivered via certified mail on February 21, 2019. She did not request a hearing. Due to the forgoing, the recommendation is that the Board permanently revoke Ms. Ferris's EMT certificate.

- **EMS Case No. 2018-99-BE100, Enrique D. Green, Certificate No. 154527.**

Mr. Green is a certified paramedic. The Division became aware of a media report that the Respondent was charged for shooting another person during an altercation. The Division investigated and found that Mr. Green was convicted of two counts of felonious assault with the firearm specification on June 29, 2018 in the Summit County of Common Pleas Court. A Notice of Opportunity for Hearing was sent via certified mail on December 24, 2018; however, it was returned. The notice was then sent with proof of certificate of mailing. Mr. Green did not request a hearing. The recommendation is that the Board permanently revoke Mr. Green's paramedic certificate.

- **EMS Case No. 2018-358-BE100, Edward C. Harden, Certificate No. 132753.**

Mr. Harden is an advanced emergency medical technician. He filed his renewal application and advised he had a pending sexual battery charge. The Division confirmed that on August 18, 2017 in the Geauga Common Pleas Court he pled guilty to and was convicted of two counts of gross sexual imposition which was pled down from the original charges of sexual battery. A Notice of Opportunity for Hearing was issued on October 17, 2018 via certified mail that was delivered December 27, 2018. Mr. Harden did not request a hearing. The recommendation is that the Board permanently revoke Mr. Harden's advanced emergency medical technician certificate.

Having heard AAG Mowad's synopses and recommended disciplinary actions for the cases, Mr. Wright requested a motion to admit the sworn affidavits and the accompanying exhibits in the aforementioned cases into evidence.

ACTION: Motion to admit the sworn affidavits and accompanying exhibits in the aforementioned case into evidence. Mr. de la Porte – First. Ms. Beavers – Second. None opposed. None abstained. Motion approved.

There being no further evidence to come before the Board, the proceedings closed at 10:30 a.m.

Mr. Wright requested a motion to recess the meeting for the purpose of entering into quasi-judicial deliberations on the following matters pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Chapter 119 and that are required to be kept confidential under R.C. 4765.102(B). The Board will reconvene following deliberations.

ACTION: Motion to adjourn and go into private session for the purpose of quasi-judicial deliberation on these matters pursuant to ORC Chapter 119 and that are required to be kept confidential under R.C. 4765.102(B). Mr. Snyder– First. Ms. Rose – Second. None abstained. None opposed. Motion approved.

****Please note that Dr. Richard George arrived at 10:25 am; therefore, he will abstain from all Report and Recommendation and Goldman motions.**

EMS Report and Recommendation Motion

ACTION: *In the matter of EMS Case Number 2015-323-E300, Kaine J. O'Malley, Certificate Number 130603, I move that the Board issue an adjudication order approving the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and the recommendation of the hearing examiner to suspend Mr. O'Malley's certification for ninety (90) days. Ms. Harris – First. Mr. Snyder – Second. None opposed. Mr. Allenstein and Dr. George - abstained. Motion approved.*

ACTION: *In the matter of EMS Case Number 2017-637-E300, Nathaniel D. Knierien, Certificate Number 138263, I move that the Board issue an adjudication order approving the findings of fact and conclusions of law, and modify the recommendation of the hearing examiner to include revocation of Mr. Knierien's certificate. The reason for the modification is the hearing examiner limited the recommendation to denying certification renewal, and the sanction should include revocation. Ms. Harris – First. Mr. Snyder – Second. None opposed. Mr. Allenstein, Mr. de la Porte and Dr. George - abstained. Motion approved.*

ACTION: *In the matter of EMS Case Number 2018-623-E100, Bill L. Bitters, Certificate Number 141184, I move that the Board issue an adjudication order approving the findings of fact and conclusions of law and recommendation of the Hearing Examiner to uphold the summary suspension issued by the Board and modify the recommendation to include permanent revocation of Mr. Bitters' certificate to practice. The reason for the modification is that the Hearing Examiner did not specify this sanction in the report, and the findings of fact and conclusions of law support permanent revocation. Ms. Harris – First. Mr. Snyder – Second. None opposed. Mr. Allenstein and Dr. George - abstained. Motion approved.*

EMS Goldman Motions

ACTION: *n the matter of EMS Case Number 2017-145-BE100, Joseph M. Ruhlin, Certificate Number 96078, I move that the Board issue an adjudication order finding that Mr. Ruhlin has been convicted of Tampering with Records and Theft in Office, both felonies of the third degree and that Mr. Ruhlin's certification be permanently revoked. Ms. Harris – First. Mr. Snyder – Second. None opposed. Mr. Allenstein and Dr. George - abstained. Motion approved.*

ACTION: *In the matter of EMS Case Number 2017-161-BE100, Jason M. Zehe, Certificate Number 155454, I move that the Board issue an adjudication order finding that Mr. Zehe has been convicted of Domestic Violence and two separate counts of Violation of a Protection Order, all felonies, and that Mr. Zehe's certification be permanently revoked. Ms. Harris – First. Mr. Snyder – Second. Mr. de la Porte - opposed. Mr. Allenstein - abstained. Motion approved.*

ACTION: *In the matter of EMS Case Number 2017-364-E100, Tami K. Ferris, Certificate Number 127185, I move that the Board issue an adjudication order finding that Ms. Ferris has been convicted of Illegal Conveyance of Drugs of Abuse onto the Grounds of a Specified Government Facility, a felony of the third degree, and failing to report that conviction to the Board, and that Ms. Ferris' certification be permanently revoked. Ms. Harris – First. Mr. Snyder – Second. None opposed. Mr. Allenstein and Dr. George - abstained. Motion approved.*

ACTION: *In the matter of EMS Case Number 2018-99-BE100, Enrique D. Green, Certificate Number 154527, I move that the Board issue an adjudication order finding that Mr. Green has been convicted of two counts of Felonious Assault with Firearm Specifications and that Mr. Green's certification be permanently revoked.* Ms. Harris – First. Mr. Snyder – Second. None opposed. Mr. Allenstein and Dr. George- abstained. **Motion approved.**

ACTION: *In the matter of EMS Case Number 2018-358-BE100, Edward C. Harden, Certificate Number 132753, I move that the Board issue an adjudication order finding that Mr. Harden has been convicted of two felony counts of Gross Sexual Imposition and that Mr. Harden's certification be permanently revoked.* Ms. Harris – First. Mr. Snyder – Second. None opposed. Mr. Allenstein and Dr. George- abstained. **Motion approved.**

EMS Investigations

ACTION: *Motion to adjourn and enter executive session for the purpose of discussing proposed disciplinary action against certificate holders pursuant to O.R.C. Section 121.22(G)(1) and pursuant to 121.22(G)(5) that involve matters required to be kept confidential under O.R.C. Sections 149.43(A)(2) and 4765.102(B).* Mr. Snyder – First. Ms. Rose – Second. None opposed. None abstained. **Motion approved.**

Roll Call

Mr. Thomas Allenstein	Present	Ms. Susan Kearns	Absent
Mr. Kent Appelhans (V. Chair)	Absent	Mr. Mark Resanovich	Present
Ms. Karen Beavers	Present	Ms. Julie Rose	Present
Mr. Herb de la Porte	Present	Dr. Hamilton Schwartz	Present
Mr. David DeVore	Present	Mr. George B. Snyder	Present
Mr. Geoff Dutton	Present	Dr. Thomas Tallman	Absent
Mr. Patrick Ferguson	Present	Dr. Glen Tinkoff	Present
Dr. Richard George *arrived 10:25	Present	Mr. Kevin Uhl	Present
Ms. Deanna Harris	Present	Mr. Jason Walsh	Present
Ms. Ruda Jenkins	Present	Mr. Dudley Wright II (Chair)	Present
Mr. Aaron Jennings	Present		

ACTION: *Motion to accept the following Education Consent Agreement(s).* Ms. Harris – First. Mr. Resanovich – Second. Mr. Allenstein – Abstained. None opposed. **Motion approved.**

2019-112-E500

ACTION: *Motion to issue a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing for the following Medical Transportation cases.* Ms. Harris – First. – Second. Mr. Allenstein – Abstained. None opposed. Motion approved

2017-673-E500

2019-128-E700

ACTION: Motion to accept the following Consent Agreement(s): Ms. Harris – First. Mr. Resanovich – Second. Mr. Allenstein, Mr. de la Porte (2018-736-E100), Mr. Ferguson (2017-795-E400 and 2019-020-E500) – Abstained. None opposed. **Motion approved.**

2016-020-BE100	2018-589-E300	2018-736-E100 *de la Porte abstain*
2018-017-E300	2018-590-E300	2017-795-E400 *Ferguson abstain*
2018-427-E300	2018-628-E100	2019-020-E500 *Ferguson abstain*
2018-587-E300		

ACTION: Motion to close the following cases due to lack of jurisdiction, referral to local medical director, deferral to department discipline, certifications have expired, or non-violations of ORC and/or OAC: Ms. Harris – First. Mr. Resanovich – Second. None opposed. Mr. Allenstein – Abstained. **Motion approved.**

2017-311-E400	2017-709-E400	2018-005-E500
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ACTION: Motion to close the following cases, individuals have met the stipulations of their Consent Agreements: Ms. Harris – First. Mr. Resanovich – Second. Mr. Allenstein – Abstained. None opposed. **Motion approved.**

2014-383-BE100 *Rescind NOH*	2016-162-E300	2016-414-E300
2014-655-E500	2016-231-E300	2016-422-E300
2015-403-E500	2016-336-E400	2018-561-E100
2015-640-E300	2016-382-E300	

ACTION: Motion to close the following cases. The Board accepts the surrendering of their respective certificates to practice or teach. Re-open if re-applies: Ms. Harris – First. Mr. Resanovich – Second. Mr. Allenstein – Abstained. None opposed. **Motion approved.**

2018-151-E300	2018-689-E300	2018-717-E300	2018-740-E300	2019-104-E300
2018-591-E300	2018-705-E300	2018-727-E300	2019-064-E300	
2018-667-E300	2018-706-E300	2018-739-E300	2019-070-E300	

ACTION: Motion to close the following case and to accept the voluntary surrender for permanent revocation of certificate(s). Ms. Harris – First. Mr. Resanovich – Second. Mr. Allenstein – abstained. None opposed. **Motion approved.**

2017-099-BE100

ACTION: Motion to close the following case(s). The individuals/entities did not meet the requirements of their consent agreement prior to certification surrender or certification expiration. Re-open if re-applies. Ms. Harris – First. Mr. Resanovich – Second. Mr. Allenstein – Abstained. None opposed. **Motion approved.**

2016-155-E100	2016-320-E300
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ACTION: Motion to close the following case(s). The individuals were audited at their respective levels. Their respective certificate(s) to practice expired. Re-open if re-applies. Ms. Harris – First. Mr. Resanovich – Second. Mr. Allenstein – abstained. None opposed. **Motion approved.**

2016-299-E300

Dr. Cunningham reported that there is a need for RPAB Region 8 and Region 7 membership.

The 2019 RPAB chair meeting's date has been amended to be held on Thursday, May 2, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. The subsequent RPAB chair meeting will be September 11, 2019 at 10:00 am.

The Department of Homeland Security First Responder Resource Group's annual meeting will be held May 7-9, 2019. If you should have any ideas or needs to communicate to this group, please contact Dr. Cunningham.

Dr. Cunningham will attend the National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO), Medical Director Council meeting on May 13-14, 2019.

EMS Staff Legal Counsel, Michael Wise

Mr. Wise reported that he spoke to the Ohio Attorney General's office regarding the collection of unpaid fines. They will take all of our cases and will assess a fee on top of the unpaid fines; therefore, all matters will be referred to the Attorney General's office.

The individuals that can request an advisory opinion on whether their convictions are disqualifying for certification. At the Board retreat Mr. Wise reported that he referenced a 90-day requirement; however, it is actually a 30-day time frame. Mr. Wise requested a motion to delegate to Case Review the review of inquiries as to whether the parties have disqualifying criminal convictions if the 30-day timeline prevents the EMFTS Board from reviewing the matter.

ACTION: Motion to delegate requests involving disqualifying criminal convictions to Case Review should the 30-day time frame prevent the EMFTS Board from reviewing the matter.
Ms. Harris – First. Mr. Jennings – Second. None opposed. None abstained. Motion approved.

Mr. Wise reported that there are two rules for approval to file with the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review and the Common Sense Initiative Office.

ACTION: Motion to approve the filing of the Ohio Administrative Code Section 4765-4-03 (Required Reporting) with the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review. Ms. Harris – First.
Ms. Rose – Second. None opposed. None abstained. Motion approved.

ACTION: Motion to approve the filing of the Business Impact Analysis for the Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 766-5 (Medical Transportation) with the Common Sense Initiative Office. Ms. Harris – First. Mr. Jennings – Second. None opposed. None abstained. Motion approved.

An EMFTS Board member inquired as to if a fee would be imposed if the Attorney General's office is unable to collect. Mr. Wise reported that there would be no out of pocket expenses to the Division of EMS if they collect the unpaid fines or if they do not collect the unpaid fines.

Assistant Attorney General, Lidia Mowad

Ms. Mowad reported that there is one pending matter for Gene Hackworth and there has not been a final decision.

The EMFTS Board voted at the February meeting to revoke Mr. Coyle's EMS certifications. Mr. Coyle has filed an appeal in this matter to the Montgomery Common Pleas Court. Ms. Mowad will represent the Board in this matter.

Executive Director and Staff Reports, Melvin House

Executive Director House reported that all the EMFTS Board seats remained filled.

The Division of EMS Staff vacancies and new positions:

- Education Coordinator
- Medical Transportation Section due to the retirement of Connie White on March 29th a person has been hired and scheduled to begin on April 29th.
- Testing Administration Professional 4
 - James Burke introduced Jayne Mayton who was promoted from an AP2 position to the AP4 position.
- Deputy Director Rob Wagoner introduced James Burke as the Chief of Education and Testing. He comes from OPATA, Director of Advanced Training.
- Investigator 1
 - Doug Edwards began work in March and is an asset to the Investigations section. He previously served the State of Ohio Medical Board.

Executive Director House reported that the new rules went into effect on April 1, 2019. EMS providers are required to complete the Rescue Task Force Awareness Training on the Ohio Department of Public Safety Training Campus. Due to the national attention this program has received, an additional version has been created for non-EMS providers and EMS providers who not certified in Ohio that is available on the EMS website.

Last summer the Division of EMS applied for the National Rural EMS and Care Conference sponsored by the Joint Committee on Rural Emergency Care that includes the National Organization State Office of Rural Health, the National Association of State EMS Officials, the National Rural Health Association and the National Rural Health Resource Center. The Division of EMS has been selected to host the 2021 National Rural EMS and Care Conference, a two-day conference with approximately 150 to 200 attendees. The Division is awaiting confirmation of the dates. The location will be somewhere in the Columbus area but has yet to be determined. With the Board member's assistance the Division will be identifying speakers.

DEMS Database Projects

Phase 3 of the Education should be completed by May 2019. The EMS Agency/Management, phase 2, to be completed by June 2019.

Online Applications (instructor, certifications, accreditations, charters and CE sites; medical transportation) is a large project with a business case being initiated. The project to begin mid-2020.

EMSIRS Project, Deputy Director Rob Wagoner

Mr. Wagoner reported that we are in the phase of testing and have accepted data from Digital Innovations® and have brought it over to the Ohio Department of Public Safety Training site to verify the integrity of the data. The process went well. A notice was sent to all of the EMS agencies advising them of this upcoming change beginning January 1, 2020. Eight pilot sites have been identified who is in the process of going through the identify manager phase to get access to participate in the pilot. Once approved IT will start to incorporate their data into a test database.

ODPS IT has prepared a server that is ready to accept an estimated 700 gigabytes of EMSIRS data from 2016 to current. From July through December agencies will begin reporting directly to the new EMSIRS.

A new law was signed allowing Ohio to share data with the National EMS Incident System database (NEMSIS). Mr. Wise reported that his office is working on the contract with NEMSIS. Dr. Schwartz thanked everyone who participated in the law change so that we can share our data nationally.

Executive Director Report, Melvin House

A conference call with the State Board of Pharmacy is scheduled on April 30, 2019. The issues to be discussed are as follows:

- Medical director's social security number and date of birth on the application issue with respect to the applications being stored at the agencies
- Narcan® protocol with medical director's name on the Narcan® boxes
- Mutual aid calls and the requirement of a wet signature of the drug provider
- Community paramedicine non-emergency drug administration license
- Inspections

Financial disclosures are due May 15, 2019. Ethics training is due by the end of December.

Legislative Report, Dan Fitzpatrick

Mr. Fitzpatrick was unable to attend; therefore, Director House presented the legislative report.

The background checks passed the House, but then the Senate pulled the bill. Research was completed and found that twenty out of twenty-one states require background checks. Opportunities to add this to another bill are being looked at for inclusion of background checks.

Emergency Medical Responders (EMR's) were never included in the information protection and is currently being added to a bill.

SB7 – Temporary Occupational License for Active Military and spouses. If an individual moves to Ohio from another state that already holds a valid license from another state would be issued a temporary license for three years. This bill passed the Senate unanimously.

Executive Director reported that he met with the Pitchin-Green Fire Department in Springfield, regarding EMR's not being permitted to drive the ambulance to the scene. They only have 13 volunteers and this is a major issue for small departments.

EMS Exemption Requests, Jean Booze

Jean Booze reported that there were three exemption requests. Two are dual certified requests military exemption; 2019-4-02 and 2019-4-03. Military documentation was received. There is one EMS only certification requesting an exemption due to medical hardship; 2019-04-05. Medical documentation was received. Staff recommends approval and requests a motion to approve.

ACTION: Motion to approve the exemption requests of 2019-4-02 and 2019-4-03 due to being on active military duty and to approve the exemption request for 2019-0451 due to a medical hardship.
Ms. Rose – First. Mr. Snyder – Second. None opposed. None abstained. Motion approved.

Jean Booze reported that there was one voluntary surrender request from Mark Phillabaum, certification #21901, to voluntarily surrender his EMT certification as he is no longer practicing in EMS. Staff recommends approval and requests a motion to approve.

ACTION: Motion to approve the exemption requests of 2019-02-2 and 2019-02-3 due to being on active military duty and to approve the exemption request for 2019-02-1 due to a medical hardship. Mr. Snyder – First. Ms. Rose – Second. None opposed. None abstained. Motion approved.

Education, Kris Miller

Ms. Miller stated that the original Certificates for Approval were pulled from the EMFTS Board member's consent agenda due to some errors on the dates. The new Certificates of Approval were distributed to the Board members. Approval is requested for the updated Certificates of Approval presented to the Board.

ACTION: Motion to approve the updated Certificates of Approval for the continuing education sites. Mr. Jennings – First. Mr. de la Porte – Second. None opposed. Ms. Harris (2084), Ms. Jenkins (2363), and Mr. Snyder (2186) abstained. **Motion approved.**

Medical Transportation – Dave Fiffick

Mr. Fiffick presented the list of medical transportation renewal applications with expiration dates of February, March, April, and May 2019. Staff is requesting a motion and approval pending a satisfactory inspection.

ACTION: Motion to approve the medical transportation renewals with expiration dates of February 2019, March 2019 and April 2019 and May 2019; pending a satisfactory inspection. Mr. de la Porte – First. Mr. Dutton – Second. None opposed. Mr. Allenstein (MedFlight), Ms. Jenkins (UC Medical Center) and Ms. Harris (MedFlight) -abstained. **Motion approved.**

Mr. Fiffick presented the list of medical transportation applications for 19 new ambulette services, 2 new BLS ambulance services and 1 new mobile intensive service. Staff is requesting a motion and approval pending a satisfactory inspection.

ACTION: Motion to approve the 19 new ambulette services and 2 BLS ambulance services; pending a satisfactory inspection. Mr. Resanovich – First. Mr. Jennings - Second. None opposed. Ms. Harris (250669), Ms. Jenkins (316595) - abstained. **Motion approved.**

Mr. Fiffick presented the list of new headquarters medical transportation locations for 1 ambulette service and 1 air medical service. A new satellite locations for 3 ambulette and 3 ambulance services. Staff is requesting a motion for approval pending a satisfactory inspection.

ACTION: Motion to approve the medical transportation new headquarters locations for 1 ambulette service and 1 air medical service; new satellite locations for 3 ambulette and 3 ambulance services. Mr. Jennings – First. Ms. Beavers – Second. Mr. Allenstein (MedFlight) and Ms. Harris (MedFlight) - abstained. None opposed. **Motion approved.**

Mr. Fiffick presented the list of services that have requested a change in level of service. One from ALS to MoICU and one from MoICU to ALS. The ALS to MoICU requires an inspection. Staff is requesting a motion for approval pending a satisfactory inspection.

ACTION: Motion to approve the change in the level of service. One service is from an ALS to MoICU and one from MoICU to ALS; pending a satisfactory inspection for ALS to MoICU.
Mr. Jennings – First. Ms. Beavers – Second. None abstained. None opposed. **Motion approved.**

Grants, Johanna Burgess

The 2018-2019 first grant cycle is now closed. The Division will reimburse all but \$19,879.24. Maple Heights has been awarded \$18,500 for a Stryker cot.

The 2019-2020 grant application period is now closed and the Division received the following:

- 774 Priority One grant applications
- 68 Board Priority grant applications
- 77 Economic Hardship grant applications
- 5 Traditional 2-5 Research proposals
 - 3 RFP Topics
 - Simulation-Bases Pediatric Curriculum
 - The Effectiveness of Injury Prevention Interventions and Techniques
 - The Evaluation of Costs and Resource Utilization of Trauma Related Systems of Care

Ms. Burgess presented requests received from agencies to add to the training and equipment list.

- Qualitative Fit Test Kit
- ELK Lifting Cushion

A discussion ensued and it was decided that the EMFTS Board would require additional information before coming to a decision.

Board Committee Reports

Trauma Committee, Diane Simon

Ms. Simon reported that the committee met on March 13, 2019 and they had quorum. The software vendors gave a presentation of the new formatting. Information regarding this will be distributed as the Trauma Committee receives it.

The EMS Trauma Triage Decision Tree was revised in 2014 and has not been updated visually on the algorithm. The Trauma Committee requests approval of the revised EMS Trauma Triage Decision Tree.

ACTION: Motion to approve the revised EMS Trauma Triage Decision Tree document.
Mr. Jennings – First. Dr. Tinkoff – Second. None abstained. None opposed. **Motion approved.**

The Ohio Trauma Committee is engaged with the Burn Surge Committee. Dr. Cunningham will write the EMS section of the plan as well as developing the algorithms. The Trauma Committee will review the burn surge algorithm and identify any potential gaps.

A study is being created to look at run sheet availability upon arrival to the hospital. The doctors rely on this information and it is important to have better communication.

Ms. Simon gave an update on the research grant to determine a competent workforce for pre-hospital and hospital personnel. A study conducted in 2003 on trauma education and certification had very little participation. They would like to improve distribution with an online survey.

The next Trauma Committee meeting is scheduled for May 8, 2019.

EMS Children Committee, Dr. Hamilton Schwartz

Dr. Schwartz reported that the committee met on June 18, 2019 with a quorum.

Ohio EMSC is one of nine state programs to receive funding for the EMSC Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinator Learning Collaborative. An information and registration page has been established on the Ohio EMSC website; to date 60 agencies have registered their PECC with us. Upcoming events include a short survey of PECCs to determine educational needs and development of a webinar for fall 2019 for PECCs to describe how this role has impacted their agency's performance in treating pediatric patients.

The Pediatric Champion workgroup met on March 13, and established a workgroup to put together a survey for hospitals to determine needs for pediatric care in the emergency department. Future efforts will include increasing communication between hospital Pediatric Champions and pre-hospital PECCs. The Pediatric Disaster Preparedness Coalition will be working on a pediatric annex to the Ohio EMA disaster plan as part of the ASPR grant.

The Ohio EMSC Committee is reviewing the current State of Ohio EMS Pediatric Guidelines and Procedures Manual to ensure its compatibility with the NASEMSO National Model EMS Clinical Guidelines. Dr. Schwartz is coordinating this effort for Dr. Cunningham.

Joe Stack and Dr. Schwartz are working with the Ohio Department of Health to update the Emergency Guidelines for Schools document, ensuring accurate guidance is provided to school nurses and staff in responding to emergency situations in their schools.

Dr. Schwartz requested approval to appoint Laura Holdren to the committee.

ACTION: Motion to appoint Laura Holdren to the EMS Children Committee. Dr. Schwartz – First.
Mr. Uhl – Second. None abstained. None opposed. Motion approved.

The next meeting will be held at the Ohio Department of Public Safety on June 18, 2019.

EMS System Development, Deanna Harris

Ms. Harris directed Board members to the “2016-2018 Public Safety Services Crash Involvement” document that was distributed to each of them. Ms. Harris thanked Mr. Wagoner and DEMS staff on a job well done in creating the presentation of the crash data at the February Retreat.

The committee had many discussions regarding the data being collected and how it is used. Deputy Director Wagoner and Ms. Morris have been asked to create a presentation on how to use data and the capabilities of EMSIRS.

Ms. Harris suggested topics for the 2019 EMS Medical Directors Conference:

- EMSIRS – why capturing data is so important
- Non-transport data and why it is important
- How to access EMSIRS for quality data

The Ohio State Highway Patrol (OHP) is currently not gathering data on their OH1 crash reports whether intersections have pre-emptive signaling. The committee would like for OHP to include data on who was injured; EMS provider or citizen.

A letter is being created to send to the EMS Chiefs and vendors on how important it is to turn on the fields to capture non-transport data.

At this time an EMR cannot drive to the scene; however, they can drive to the hospital. A change is in process. Ms. Harris made a motion to include EMR's along with EMT's to require the completion of a driver emergency training course.

ACTION: Motion to approve the requirement for an EMR along with EMT's to complete a driver emergency training course upon initial certification. Ms. Harris – First. Mr. Dutton – Second. None abstained. None opposed. **Motion approved.**

** Please note that a motion was previously approved to require EMT's to complete driver emergency training upon initial certification; however, is not in effect to date. In the next rule revision it will be a requirement for initial certification for both EMT's and EMR's to complete driver emergency training.

A document was included in the EMFTS Board packet from the National Safety Council about distracted drivers. It was suggested that 7 to 10 minute training videos with a 3 to 5 question survey be provided as in-house training on the EMS website. Ms. Harris requested input from the Board members. It is a concern of the Board to add additional mandatory continuing education.

Ms. Harris requested the appointment of Joshua Tilton and Clark Crago to the EMS System Development Committee. Ms. Harris stated that the committee is still under 15 members.

ACTION: Motion to appoint Joshua Tilton and Clark Crago to the EMS System Development Committee. Mr. de la Porte – First. Ms. Beavers – Second. Mr. Ferguson - abstained. None opposed. **Motion approved.**

The next meeting will be held at the Ohio Department of Public Safety on June 18, 2019.

Homeland Security Subcommittee, Deanna Harris

Ms. Harris stated that the committee did not meet in March due to no quorum. The committee may organize an RTF Conference.

The Ohio Emergency Management Agency is having a conference on April 30th and May 1st, at the Crown Plaza in Dublin, Ohio. There are many excellent speakers on the agenda. Should you wish to attend you will need to register.

Ms. Harris requested the appointment of Micah Stoll to the Homeland Security Subcommittee.

ACTION: Motion to appoint Micah Stoll to the Homeland Security Subcommittee. Mr. Resanovich – First. Mr. Dutton – Second. None abstained. None opposed. **Motion approved.**

There has been a lot of questions regarding mobile integrated healthcare community paramedicine and Ms. Harris requested the consideration in regenerating this ad hoc committee as it was previously sunsetted. A discussion ensued and there were conflicting opinions. It was decided that the EMS System Development Committee would discuss Mobile Integrated Healthcare.

The next meeting will be held at the Ohio Department of Public Safety on May 3, 2019.

EMS Rural Committee, Karen Beavers

Ms. Beavers reported that the committee met April 16, 2019 and there was a quorum.

Ms. Beavers stated that many members volunteered for the EMS Scope of Practice Ad-hoc committee and the Human Resources Ad-hoc committee.

A discussion regarding volunteer recruitment retention of what has and has not been successful. Apollo Career Center is going to run a high school class for juniors and seniors to include firefighter I for juniors and firefighter II for seniors and EMT Basic. A list is being compiled of high schools who offer classes.

Mr. Gildone announced that a federal bill, HB 1241, which gives volunteers a \$600 credit is slowly gaining some traction.

Ms. Beavers requested appointment of Todd Schroyer and Joshua Tilton for the Rural Committee.

ACTION: Motion to appoint Todd Schroyer and Joshua Tilton to the Rural EMS Committee.
Ms. Beavers – First. Mr. de la Porte – Second. Mr. Ferguson - abstained. None opposed. **Motion approved.**

The next meeting will be held at the Ohio Department of Public Safety on June 18, 2019.

Education Committee, George Snyder

Mr. Snyder reported that the committee met on April 16, 2019 and there was a quorum.

The topic of discussion was over ProTraining CPR in regards to CAPSE certification. There may be an issue. They are certified as an F2, which is live-in-person training. It was discussed that they would need to be an F5 to do CPR with the box and a webcam. They cannot do F5 training for skills verification. The accreditation manual is not very detailed. Mr. Snyder requested that Executive Director House send a letter to CAPSE requesting additional information. Mr. Snyder agreed to draft the letter and bring it forth at the June Board meeting.

Due to the number of requests for CPR program approval of the Board in the past couple of years, there has been a discussion regarding a change in the rules. The medical transportation rules would mirror the EMS rules and if they hold a CAPSE certification and it is taught at an accredited school or has national credentialing then the EMFTS Board would not need to approve the programs for CPR programs for ambulance personnel.

Other discussions included reciprocity and continuing education; however, no action was taken.

Mr. Snyder requested the approval of Tamara Wires resignation due to conflicts with other committees and appoint Joshua Tilton.

ACTION: Motion to accept the resignation of Tamara Wires and appoint Joshua Tilton to the Education Committee. Mr. Snyder – First. Mr. de la Porte – Second. Mr. Ferguson - abstained. None opposed. **Motion approved.**

The next meeting will be held at the Ohio Department of Public Safety on June 18, 2019.

Medical Oversight Committee, Geoff Dutton

Mr. Dutton reported that the committee met April 16, 2019 and there was a quorum.

Mr. Dutton requested that Cynthia Annen's resignation be accepted and removed from the committee.

ACTION: Motion to accept the resignation of Cynthia Annen and remove her from the Medical Oversight Committee. Mr. Dutton – First. Mr. Snyder – Second. None abstained. None opposed.
Motion approved.

The 2019 EMS Medical Director's conference is in the beginning stages of development and the committee is requesting items for the agenda or speakers.

The committee had a discussion regarding research of requests for waivers. Cleveland Clinic and Lake Health are requesting waivers.

The next meeting will be held at the Ohio Department of Public Safety on June 18, 2019.

Medical Transportation Committee, Tom Allenstein

Mr. Allenstein reported that the committee met on April 16, 2019 and there was a quorum.

A request was made to add a person to the committee; however, DEMS staff will research if the committee application was received from this person. Michael Jackson resigned from the committee.

The committee had a discussion about non-emergency pediatric ventilator transports. Currently, the Ohio EMS scope of practice does not allow transport of pediatric patients with ventilators. It was decided that the EMS for Children's Committee will look at this issue along with the Medical Oversight Committee and bring a recommendation to the Board.

The next meeting will be held at the Ohio Department of Public Safety on June 18, 2019.

Critical Care Subcommittee, Julie Rose

Ms. Rose reported that the committee met on April 16, 2019.

Members of the committee were advised that if they were not able to attend the meetings on a regular basis then they would be removed. Michael Jackson resigned from the committee as he is not in the industry any longer.

The committee has continued to make progress on the endorsement issue.

Ms. Rose requested an update regarding the status of the vehicle dependency on the KKK specs. Executive Director House reported that it is in the legislative request and on the high priority list and has not been able to move yet. He reminded the Board members that the organizations they represent can help move these items.

The next meeting will be held at the Ohio Department of Public Safety on June 18, 2019.

Human Resources Ad-Hoc Committee

Mr. Resanovich established the first meeting where they will establish their goals and objectives on May 21, 2019 at 10:00 am.

Mr. Resanovich made a motion to appoint Patrick Ferguson and Rick Annen to the Human Resources Ad-Hoc Committee.

ACTION: Motion to appoint Patrick Ferguson and Rick Annen to the Human Resources Ad-Hoc Committee. Mr. Resanovich – First. Mr. Dutton – Second. None abstained. None opposed. **Motion approved.**

Scope of Practice Ad-Hoc Committee

Mr. Uhl reported that members of the committee met on April 17, 2019.

The next meeting will be held on May 22, 2019 before the EMFTS Board meeting at 9:15 am in conference room 1101. Future meetings will be the day before the EMFTS Board meeting on June 18, 2019 at 9:30 am to 11:00 am.

EMS Star of Life Awards, Dr. Tallman

Dr. Tallman was not in attendance, therefore, the DEMS coordinator of the EMS Star of Life Awards, Valerie Koker, reported that the selections were made for each of the categories. The ceremony will be held on May 22, 2019 after the EMFTS Board meeting beginning at 12 noon for the meet and greet and 1:00 pm for the ceremony.

Old Business ~ none

Deputy Director Wagoner reported that Passed Examination Results, Period of Validity document had been distributed to every Board member. Several months ago the Board discussed and approved 4765-8-05 of the time period of examination results to be valid in a 12-month period. An external agency decided to make them valid for a 24-month period. For individuals seeking their initial Ohio certification who completed a course that began prior to November 1, 2018, it was business as usual and, the examination results will be valid for 12 months. If they do not complete their initial certification within that window they will have to repeat the invalid portion. In all cases people are only permitted to test within a 2-year window that they completed the course which has not changed. There are students who complete their educational program between November 1, 2018 to June 1, 2019 who will be told by an external agency that their test results are valid for 2 years and they may gain national EMS certification; however, they will not be eligible for Ohio certification based on 4765-8-05. The DEMS staff is working with ODPS IT to identify and track their dates, examination attempts, results of exam; both cognitive and psychomotor examination.

Executive Director House requested a motion to approve the migration schedule on page 3 of the *Passed Examination Results Period of Validity* document to best accommodate those students who are in process of seeking initial Ohio EMS certification when this change in policy takes effect and to minimize any adverse impact on them, we recommend adoption of the following which is consistent with similar past NREMT considerations when test-related policies and processes were changed:

- All students who are currently in the testing process and seeking initial Ohio EMS certification will continue to have up to two years from their date of course completion to gain their initial

Ohio EMS certification. Provided this two year period has not elapsed, the following will apply until the two year anniversary date from course completion is reached:

- All students who must repeat an expired cognitive examination (passed more than 12 months ago) will begin with Attempt #1 of the cognitive examination. The student will have all attempts available to complete the cognitive examination at that level until the two year anniversary date from course completion is reached (EMR = 3 attempts; all other levels up to 6 attempts).
- All students who must repeat an expired psychomotor examination (passed more than 12 months ago) will begin with Attempt #1 of the psychomotor examination. The student will have all attempts available to complete the psychomotor examination at that level until the two year anniversary date from course completion is reached (all levels up to 3 full attempts).
- All students who do not gain initial Ohio EMS certification within two years from their date of course completion will be required to complete another initial EMS course and meet all other requirements for initial Ohio EMS certification at that level currently in effect.

ACTION: Motion to approve the migration schedule as stated for those students who are in process of seeking initial Ohio EMS certification when this change in policy takes effect.

Mr. Allenstein – First. Ms. Rose – Second. None abstained. None opposed. **Motion approved.**

New Business ~ none

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m. Mr. Resanovich – First. Mr. Snyder – Second.

NEXT MEETING: The next EMFTS Board meeting will be held Wednesday, May 22, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. at the Ohio Department of Public Safety, conference room 1106, 1970 West Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43223.