

HME Board Minutes

October 11, 2023

3:00pm CST

With proper and required notice having been provided to the Alabama Secretary of State's Office along with posting on the websites of the Alabama Secretary of State and the Alabama Board of Home Medical Equipment the meeting was held on Wednesday, October 11th, 2023, at Embassy Suites -2960 John Hawkins Parkway – Bham-Hoover, AL, Alabama. The meeting has been called to order at 3:05 p.m. by Chair Lisa Wells.

A quorum having been established and maintained; the following Board members were present:

Lisa Wells

Jason Jones

Robert Beard

Michael Hadden – Via AUDIO

Jennifer Weathers

Dr. Amber Clark Brown – join via Audio 4:00 pm

Also present was Claire Austin, Executive Director, Will Parker, Administrative Support, and Cameron Elkins, Board Legal Counsel.

After reading the agenda that was passed out prior to the meeting, the motion to approve the agenda was made by Jason Jones and seconded by Jennifer Weathers. All voted in favor, and the agenda was approved. The reading from the minutes from the May 23, 2023, meeting where motioned to approve by Michael Hadden, and seconded by Robert Beard.

Chair, Lisa Wells, thanked everyone for attending the meeting today in Birmingham, and requested we do board introductions having our new General Counsel, Cameron Elkins.

Wells discussed the two bills pending in Congress HR 5555 and SR 1294 pertaining to the competitive bid rate increase for the next nine years, and impact on the industry, and access to care.

Wells stated that she would be stepping down from the Board as Chairman, and that we would elect officers today. Floor was opened for Nominations for Chair; Jason Jones was nominated by Wells and seconded by Beard. The vote was unanimous approved by all five members voting.

The floor was open for nominations for the Vice-Chair, Robert Beard was nominated by Wells, and seconded by J. Weathers. The vote was unanimously approved by all five members voting.

The New Chair Mr. Jason Jones mentions finding the HME Board under Google for the staff to correct this it had a former address of six years ago. Jason mentioned Sunny Smith had received her appointment letter to the board but couldn't attend today, she will take the Oath of Office on December 12th. There was also discussion about whether the HME Board could join ARPA, legal counsel, Cameron Elkins will check on this matter. The board wanted to have an update for the next meeting on the status of random inspections.

Claire Austin gave the executive director's report to the board on the status of the board. There was discussion about having a meeting once a year in Birmingham at the same time as the Association meeting where the public and others could attend. Austin discussed new inspector Darrell Tatum of Florence; AL would be working with the board. Austin thanked Wells for years of leadership and steadfast knowledge of the industry, and the transition of the HME Board as the Chairman.

Will Parker presented the Financial Report with a detailed status on the finances of the board. The board is in good standing financially. Parker stated a thank you to the Office of the Attorney General for their legal cost, and great work.

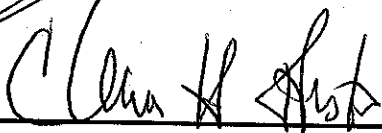
Cameron Elkins the general counsel had no report for the board.

Lisa Wells said with no further business before the board, "I would like a motion to adjourn, Michael Hadden made the motion to adjourn, and Robert Beard seconded the motion to adjourn the board unanimously voted in favor to adjourn at 4:08 p.m.

The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, December 12, 2023.



Jason Jones, Chair of Board



Claire H. Aust - Executive Director
