

HME Board Minutes

December 12, 2023

11:00am 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 Tuesday, December 12th, 2023, at 60 Commerce Street – Suite 1440, Montgomery Alabama. The meeting has been called to order at 11:00 a.m. by Chairman Jason Jones.

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

Jason Jones

Robert Beard

Michael Hadden

Sunny Smith – New Board member

Jennifer Weathers - 11:02 am

Dr. Amber Clark Brown – 11:03 am

Don Jones – Via Zoom

Lisa Wells - Via Zoom

Also present were 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 Lisa Wells and seconded by Robert Beard. All voted in favor, and the agenda was approved. The reading from the minutes from the Oct 11, 2023, meeting where motioned to approve by Lisa Wells, and seconded by Robert Beard with the corrections of the two Congressional bills HR 5555 and SR 1294.

Claire Austin, Executive Director administered the Oath of office, and the swearing in of Sunny Smith, as the new Member from the Home Healthcare industry of HME-SP Board. Jacki Tucker did the notarization of the swearing-in and Oath of Office of Sunny Smith.

Chairman Jason Jones asked that Sunny Smith give a brief overview introduction to all the members about her background. The entire Board went around and gave introductions since this was a full Board meeting, and the fact that Sunny was newly appointed, and that the board had a new inspector, and a new staffer at The Austin Group, Jacki Tucker.

Chairman Jones mentioned the Diabetes issues at the Medicaid agency, he called on Jennifer Weathers to discuss this matter. J. Weathers discussed the issues facing the non-coverage of CGM and CPAS for adults by the Medicaid agency. Weathers discussed the 2023 legislation that didn't move in 2023 – SB 63/54. Chairman Jones appointed a legislative committee with Jennifer Weathers, Don Jones, and Dr. Amber Clarke Brown to meet following the end of the Board meeting today.

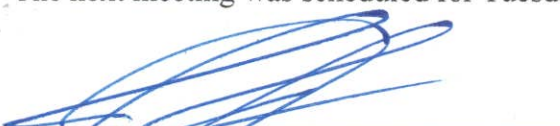
Claire Austin gave the executive director's report to the board on the status of the board. Austin discussed the random inspections that have been done over the past year, and the new physical year. Austin stated that over the next two days there would be an additional 16 random inspections and that new inspector Darrell Tatum, would be in Jasper, and Cullman counties, and Austin would be in Montgomery, and Prattville both conducting more random inspections.

Will Parker presented the Financial Report with a detailed status on the finances of the board. The board is in good standing financially. Parker discussed in detail the past three years of the boards Licenses and number, and the increase of revenue over the past three years. Parker discussed the percentage of Random Inspections at 28 %, Wells stated that we should conduct 144 random inspections in the Administrative contract year..

Cameron Elkins, the general counsel had no report for the board. Elkins stated he would work with Austin on letters to Licensees that aren't operating the stores for the statutory weekly hours of operation.

Chairman Jason Jones said with no further business before the board, "I would like a motion to adjourn, Michael Hadden made the motion to adjourn, and Lisa Wells seconded the motion to adjourn the board meeting unanimously voted in favor to adjourn at 11:46 am.

The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, March 5, 2024



Jason Jones, Chair of Board