

**Kentucky Ambulance Providers Association  
Board Meeting Minutes**



**Meeting Date:** January 25, 2024

**Meeting Location:** Owensboro Convention Center

**Board members in attendance:**

Region	Board Member ( ^ = Odd Year term)	Present or Absent
Region 1	Mark Harrison	Present
Region 1	Mike Wiggins	Present
Region 1	Troy Walker ☒	Present
Region 2	Jim Duke ( <b>Vice-President</b> )	Present
Region 2	David Webb ^	Present
Region 2	Mike Cottrell	Present
Region 3	Joe Bradshaw	Present
Region 3	Steve Eubank	Present
Region 3	James Hacker ^ ( <b>President</b> )	Present
Region 4	Jody Dunhoft ^	Resigned
Region 4	Pennie Crady	Present
Region 4	Phil Dietz	Absent
Region 5	Ashley Powell ( <b>Treasurer</b> ) ^	Present
Region 5	Brandon Bussell	Present
Region 5	Tim May	Absent
Region 6	Brent Turvey ^	Absent
Region 6	Bill Baker	Absent
Region 6	Michael Mason ^	Present
At-Large	Paul Phillips	Logged in late
At-Large	Rick Driskill	Resigned
At-Large	Donald Hare ( <b>Secretary</b> ) ^	Present
At-Large	Joe Prewitt	Resigned
At-Large	Joe Middleton ^	Present

**The following items were presented, discussed, and/or acted upon while the board meeting was in order:**

Item	Discussion	Action
Call to order	Meeting Called to order at 13:00 by President Hacker	
Invocation	Invocation led by President Hacker	
Roll Call	Roll call with 4 members absent	
Determination of Quorum	Quorum met and meeting called to order	
Minutes of last meeting	Minutes of last meeting emailed and posted. Motion to approve by Penny Crady, Seconded by Steve Eubank.	Motion Passed

<p>Financial/Reimbursement Committee Report</p>	<p>Ashley gave the financial report with an ending balance today of \$69,328.48. Motion by Jim Duke, seconded by Joe Bradshaw to approve.</p> <p>Jim Duke provided the following information on Reimbursement Report below.</p> <p>KAPA REIMBURSEMENT/ AAA REPORT</p> <p>HB-8</p> <p>HR 6433</p> <p><b>Medicaid:</b></p> <p>CMS has approved our Provider Assessment SPA application and new assessments and rates should have been mailed out to all providers. For 2024, The assessment brought in \$11.8 million and will draw down \$49 million federal dollars for a total of \$61.1 million.</p> <p>The 2024 inflationary increase was 2.6%, this was significantly less than the 2023 increase.</p> <p><b>VA:</b></p> <p>The changes proposed by the VA have been delayed until at least Feb 16th, 2025, due to strong legislative efforts of the AAA.</p> <p><b>Workforce Shortages:</b></p> <p>Workforce shortage in EMS Bill, would fund 50 million to education and training.</p> <p>programs. Introduced Nov 15th.</p> <p>Treatment in place provisions should have gone into place 1/1/24 paying \$85 for a no transport, treatment in place patient.</p> <p><b>No Surprise Act-</b></p> <p>Today, the three Departments enforcing the No Surprises Act issued an updated rule on the Independent Dispute Resolution (IDR) process. It includes the clarification that the American Ambulance Association had requested the Departments provide with regard to ground ambulances not being included in the</p> <p>NSA. Specifically, it states:</p>	<p>Motion Passed</p>
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	<p><b>2. Applicability of Surprise Billing Protections to Ground Ambulance Services</b></p> <p>The Departments have received questions about how the surprise billing protections under the No Surprises Act apply to ground ambulance services. In the Departments understand that some plans and issuers have construed a statement in the preamble to the July 2021 interim final rules addressing when a participant, beneficiary, or enrollee is in a condition to receive notice and provide consent to waive surprise billing protections for post stabilization services to mean that the No Surprises Act surprise billing protections apply to post- stabilization inter-facility ground ambulance transports. The Departments do not interpret the No Surprises Act’s surprise billing provisions to apply to emergency or non-emergency ground ambulance services. This includes transport by ground ambulance after a participant, beneficiary, or enrollee has been stabilized and needs to be transferred to another facility for continued observation or treatment. Instead, Congress enacted section 117 of the No Surprises Act, which requires the Departments to establish and convene an advisory committee for the purpose of reviewing options to improve disclosure of charges and fees for ground ambulance services, better inform consumers of insurance options for such services and protect consumers from balance billing.</p> <p>The advisory committee must submit a report that includes recommendations for the disclosure of charges and fees for ground ambulance services and insurance coverage, consumer protections and enforcement authorities of the Departments and States, and the prevention of balance billing to consumers.</p>	
<p>Legislative Report</p>	<p><b>BILLS ARE NOT IN ANY SPECIFIC ORDER</b></p> <p><b>BR 258</b> A resolution discussed in the interim period regarding the placement of an Ambulance assessment on the county tax records. Expected a bill filed by Stephen Rudy, have not seen anything on it this session.</p> <p><b>HB 22</b> Remove the requirement for medical oversight of an AED, Filed by P. Pratt, Scott County</p> <p><b>HB 32</b> Requires ½ hour of training in determination of death, D. Frazier- Madison County</p> <p><b>HB 34</b> Recognize military occupations and experience in obtaining occupational licenses. S. Doan- Boone, Kenton</p> <p><b>HB 57</b> This is the big one we need to watch, Points currently in the language.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Removal of the ground ambulance classifications from statute and move to regulation.</li> <li>- Repeals the current determination of death provisions</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Section 5 Paragraph 2 “A provider licensed as of March 31, 1996, as a nonemergency health transportation</li> <li>- provider may apply to convert to either a disabled persons carrier pursuant to KRS1</li> <li>- 281.6185 or a ground ambulance service licensed and authorized in accordance2</li> <li>- with administrative regulations promulgated by the KBEMS</li> <li>- Emergency Medical Services [a Class II ground ambulance provider]</li> <li>- requiring an additional certificate of need. Prior to licensure or certificate approval,</li> <li>- the provider shall meet the respective licensing or certificate requirements.”</li> </ul> <p><b>KAPA POSITION OF THE FOLLOWING BILLS.</b></p> <p><b>BR-258</b>, to support if it gets introduced, Motion by Troy Walker and seconded by Michael Wiggins. Motion Passed.</p> <p><b>HB-22 and HB 32</b> Jim Duke suggested we remain neutral. Motion by David Webb, seconded by Penny Crady. Motion passed.</p> <p><b>HB-34</b> No action, died for lack of motion.</p> <p><b>HB-57</b> Recommend we support this bill. Motion by Joe Middleton and seconded by Ashley Powell with the addition of striking language of Section 5 Paragraph 2. Motion Passed.</p>	
KBEMS Report	<p>Eddie Slone spoke on the attrition rate of providers and is similar to last year’s recertification cycle.</p> <p>Reminder all SB-66 applications must be submitted by January 31, 2024.</p> <p>Chairman John Holder spoke on bill for Workforce Development money for education.</p> <p>Jim Duke and Joe Bradshaw spoke on Workforce and short staffing issues and how we need to combat the NREMT in forcing accreditation on AEMT and options for paramedic level training. Jim Duke will head a workgroup to address these shortages and options.</p>	
Membership Report	<p>Helen Devers spoke on Memberships and went through list of non-paid members from 2023. 2024 Membership renewals will be sent out soon. Also spoke on different payment options.</p>	

Conference Committee Report	Mark Harrison spoke on last year's conference, and we discussed ideas for our return to Owensboro for 2024. The 2023 Conference lost around \$1500.00 dollars.	
Old Business	Troy spoke on TAC committee and the new PCS run forms without Pre-Authorization. He also spoke on the treatment and no transport ruling. No action on By-laws until the board decides on how to move forward on 501C3 Status.	
New Business	<p>Jim Duke will approach Judy Taylors family to see how they want us to Judy's fees that were approved to pay during the February 2023 meeting.</p> <p>President Hacker made the following board appointments from the previous resignations.</p> <p>Mike Reynolds will take over seat for Joe Prewitt for  Jeremey Jeffries will take over seat for Ricky Driskill  Chris Barbour will take over seat for Judy Dunhoft</p> <p>MCA Owner Tara Gail Vosler passed away earlier this month; KAPA sends their condolences to the family during their time of grief.</p> <p>EMS Memorial License Plate is on the KY Transportation website with a release to order date of March of 2024.</p>	
Next Meeting	TBD in Region 3	
Adjournment	Adjourned at 14:55 hours. Motion by Troy Walker	

Respectfully submitted by: Donald Hare