

# **ALABAMA BOARD OF HOME MEDICAL EQUIPMENT**

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## **MINUTES**

### **Board Meeting**

**August 11, 2020**

The Alabama Board of Home Medical Equipment met on Tuesday, August 11, 2020, at the Board's office located at 60 Commerce Street Suite 1440 in Montgomery and on Zoom to conduct Board business. Board member in attendance in the Montgomery Office was Mr. Andy Alvarez (member). The rest of the Board Members that attended were on Zoom: Ms. Lisa Wells (Board Chair), Mr. Jason Jones (Board Vice Chair), Mr. Robert Beard (Member) and Mr. Kent Crenshaw (Member), Mr. Vernon Johnson (Member), Mr. Don Jones (Member). Board member not in attendance was Dr. Randall Lee Murphy, Jr. (Member). Others present in Montgomery were Ms. Claire Austin (Executive Director), Mr. Will Parker (Administrator), Mr. Andre Mitchell (Investigator) and on Zoom were Mr. Cameron McEwen (Legal Counsel), Mr. Tracy Crane (Investigator), and Ms. Brenda Holden (serving as recording secretary).

The meeting was called to order at 11:02 a.m. by Ms. Wells, Board Chair with a quorum present. This being the first meeting with the Austin Group, Ms. Well started the meeting with an introduction and asked the staff to all introduce themselves, after the staff introductions, each board member also gave a brief introduction. Public notice of the regularly scheduled meeting was advertised on the Board's web site at [www.homemed.alabama.gov](http://www.homemed.alabama.gov). and published on the Secretary of State's web site at [www.sos.alabama.gov](http://www.sos.alabama.gov), in accordance with the requirements of the Alabama Open Meetings Act.

Chairperson Wells asked for a motion to approve the agenda, Mr. Beard made the motion to accept the agenda as provided, Mr. J. Jones seconded the motion. A show of hands (due to the meeting being mostly on-line all votes were taken by a show of hands) showed the motion passed unanimously.

Chairperson Wells asked for a motion to approve the minutes which had been previously provided to all members in advance to read for the dates of January 21<sup>st</sup>, February 10<sup>th</sup>, and April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Mr. J. Jones made a motion to approve the January 21, 2020 minutes as written, Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. D. Jones made a motion to accept the February 10, 2020 as presented which was seconded by Mr. Beard. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. J. Jones made a motion to accept the April 8, 2020 minutes as presented which was seconded Mr. Crenshaw. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairperson Wells reported to the Board that she would like to clarify the board appointment dates and terms, since there seems to be some confusion on when the terms began and end. She stated she had been working with Ms. Austin in getting the dates corrected and terms in order. Board terms are for four years and they are staggered so that not everyone goes off at the same time. It was also pointed out that when someone is appointed to complete a term due to a resignation that this time does not count towards the four years. She suggested to the Board to consider adding two seats on the board to include another HME person and a consumer. After discussion and questions being brought up about these two positions were fully discussed, a motion was made by Mr. D. Jones to add the two positions to the Board which was seconded by Mr. Alvarez. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. McEwen added that the Board needed

to get clear language into their statute about the number of positions for Board Members since it only states the minimum seats and not the exact number. He suggested that this be included next time something is being considered before legislation. Ms. Wells said that during the transition of Administration of the Board Office people were confused about how or who to contract for questions or information however, since all this information is now available on the website, should someone reach out to one of the Board Members with questions about the Board they should refer that person to the Board's Office to take the questions.

Ms. Austin provided the Board with the financial information and updates on what the office has been doing. She provided the Board Members copies of the office production and financial information in advance to review should there be any questions.

Mr. McEwen, Board Legal Counsel stated that he did not have anything in addition to add at this time.

Chairperson Wells announced that the next regular meeting of the Board was scheduled on Tuesday, November 10, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

There being no further business of the Board, Mr. J. Jones made the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. D. Jones and unanimously passed by the Board. Chairperson Wells adjourned the meeting at 12:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Lisa Wells*

Lisa Wells  
Board Chair