

**MISSISSIPPI TORT CLAIMS BOARD**  
**MINUTES**  
**May 9, 2024**

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The Mississippi Tort Claims Board meeting was held on Thursday, May 9, 2024 at 1:30 p.m., in Room 138, Woolfolk State Office Building; 501 North West Street, Jackson, Mississippi.

The following members were present, constituting a quorum:

Mr. Phillip Buffington, Chairman  
Ms. Christina Kelsey, Representing MS Insurance Commissioner Mike Chaney  
Ms. Kim Turner, Representing Mississippi Attorney General Lynn Fitch  
Mr. Tate Lewis, Representing Mississippi State Treasurer David McRae  
Ms. Denita Griffith, Representing MS Department of Public Safety Commissioner Sean Tindell  
Ms. Liz Welch, Director, MS Department of Finance and Administration  
Mr. Ted Lampton, Representing Chris Wells, MS Department of Environmental Quality

Also present were:

Ms. Liz Bolin, MS Department of Finance and Administration  
Ms. Karen McKlemurry, Office of Insurance/Tort Claims Board Staff  
Ms. Amanda Rayburn, Tort Claims Board  
Ms. Lori Paes, Tort Claims Board  
Mr. Dan Smith, Attorney General's Office  
Mr. Bert Emrick, Office of Insurance  
Mr. Mike Lanford, MS Department of Finance and Administration  
Lisa Wells, CCMSI

Mr. Phillip Buffington, Chairman, called the meeting to order.

A motion was made by Ms. Kim Turner to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2024 meeting. Mr. Ted Lampton seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The Chairman recognized Mr. Mike Lanford, Administrator, who provided the board with the legislative update.

The Chairman then recognized Ms. Amanda Rayburn, Tort Claims Manager, who presented a list of 18 political subdivisions with the recommendation of Board approval for renewal of Certificates of Coverage. Ms. Liz Welch made a motion to approve and Mr. Ted Lampton seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The Chairman recognized Mr. Bert Emrick, State Insurance Administrator, who presented the financial report.

The Chairman again recognized Mr. Bert Emrick, who provided an overview of the current investment reports in the absence of Mr. Jeff Wilson.

In Old Business, the Chairman recognized Mr. Lanford, who informed the Board that Farley Consulting won the bid for Tort Claims and Performance Audit, and requested the Board's approval. Ms. Welch made a motion to approve and Ms. Kim Turner seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

There was no New Business.

A request was made that the Board go into Executive Session to discuss ongoing litigation. Ms. Liz Welch made a motion to close the current session which was unanimously adopted. The Chairman then requested a motion to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing existing litigation. The motion was made by Ms. Turner and seconded by Mr. Lampton, then was passed unanimously by the Board.

Ms. Turner moved and Ms. Christina Kelsey seconded the motion to end the executive session, which passed unanimously. Upon returning to an open session, Chairman Buffington announced the Board approved payment of a \$160,000 judgment in the case of *Butler vs. Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services*, and settlement authority up to \$500,000 in the case of *Mills vs. Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services*.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Ms. Welch made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Ms. Kelsey seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Phillip Buffington", is written over a horizontal line.

PHILLIP BUFFINGTON, CHAIRMAN