Oklahoma Academy of Physician Assistants
APRIL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
April 2, 2018

Board Members Present: Alex Garcia, Hussein Torbati, Ken Stein, Bridget Keast, Larry Hytche, Bobby Bosse, Gavin Christie, Tara Watson, Melissa Loftis, Don Flinn
Board Member Absent: Pam Foster, Theresa Gavula
Others Present: Meghan Liles, Saura Shanaki, Melody Yozzo, Troy Bender, Diana Wiley, Jennifer Allen, Trae Beasler, Kyndall Weder, Hannah Holasek, Michelle McNamara, Jeanine Smith, Jan Loftis, Joey Medina, John Click, Audrey Poole, Susan Thomas

I. Call to Order – Hussein Torbati, President-Elect

1. 6:27 call to order

II. Approval of Agenda

1. Motion to approve Agenda by Ken Stein; second by Don Flinn; passes without opposition.

III. Consent Agenda

1. February Board Meeting Minutes

2. Student Advisory Committee Reports

a) Motion to approve Consent Agenda by Alex Garcia; Larry Hytche seconds; passes without opposition

IV. Committee Reports

1. Legislative Report – Jan Loftis

a) Bill SB1353 – By Sen. Yen & Rep. Dunnington –OAPA Strongly opposes this bill. This was the bill that originally created the Assistant Physician category, but they renamed it, and it is called a Provisional Assistant. The bill is set to be heard tomorrow in the House Public Health Committee. Tara Watson met with Rep. Dunnington on Thursday.
- Tara Watson – I highlighted the paragraphs in the bill that we did not agree with so that he would have it. They will amend it so that it only applies to Oklahoma graduates. It will include those who did not match to a residency program.
- Jan Loftis – The Representatives do not understand our concerns.

b) HB 2997 – PMTC BILL – Support from OAPA – This is the PMTC Bill that will add PAs to the loan repayment scholarship program. Senator Yen struck the title due to OSMA's request so that they could add additional language to include additional funds for physicians in rural Oklahoma. We are working on getting the bill back on track.

c) SB 956 – Pharmacy Board Bill – Making changes to their act. When it was introduced in January, it struck language that gives PAs the prescribing authority that you have today They did this not realizing what they had done. They have restored the language, and no harm will be done.

d) SB 1446 – Big Pill Bill - OSMA is pushing through. It is implementing the recommendations of the Governor's opioid epidemic commission. Nothing alarming just watching it.

e) HB 3393 – It would prevent shackling women in prison that are having babies. DOC has a policy against shackling, but some of the county jails and detention centers have been doing that.

f) SB 1103 – Change the insurance coverage for low dose mammography. It is moving along well.

g) SB 1030 – Defunding 40k participants of Medicaid. That meeting is set for tomorrow. There several groups that oppose this bill.

2. Executive Director's Report – Susan Thomas

a) PA Day – is April 17th – OU Tulsa is going to send 12 students, OU OKC is going to send all of their students, and OCU has a guest speaker and will not be able to participate. I have reserved the Capitol View Event Center for us to meet and have lunch. I have ordered the hand sanitizers to give legislators.
b) AAPA Reception – We have about 16 people signed up at this time.
c) CME Logging – It was interesting with the Medical Board this year with the logging. We had several calls from them requesting our help regarding CME requirements. I'm hoping that we can talk with the Medical Board regarding a contract for next year.
d) Review Course – I spoke to CME4Life, and they stated that review courses would not be necessary due to the change in testing. Therefore, should we no longer provide a review course?
   - Joey Medina – Yes we should, because everyone that did not sign up for the pilot program will have to do the old way.
   - Hussein Torbati – We can have the CME committee talk about this and figure out the details and then we will bring it to the board.
e) OOA Conference April– 26th, and 27th - I will send an email to the Board and ask for volunteers for the booth at the conference.

3. CME Committee – Alex Garcia, Susan Thomas

a) Susan Thomas – The committee discussed events for the reception and will let the Social Committee know the recommendations. In the past, we talked about not having a board meeting during lunch and perhaps having either a focus group or a "Meet the Board" and would like to get a final decision.

- Hussein Torbati – I think instead of having a board meeting we can have an informal lunch and give the members an opportunity to ask the board questions or make comments.
- Susan Thomas – A good topic to talk about would be Optimal Team Practice.

4. **Finance Committee – Gavin Christie**
    a. Budget is on track, and nothing is out of whack. The fiscal year starts July 1st.
5. **Governance Committee – Hussein Torbati**

Hussein Torbati – Handed out cards and requested that the board write down anonymously anyone on the ballot that they would like to discuss. There was no request to discuss any of the candidates on the ballot.

- Hussein Torbati discussed the committee's recommendation to increase board seats to 15. He stated that we have a lot of good candidates and we want new faces and voices on the board.
- John Click – It will be harder to get a decision.
- Gavin Christie – The At-Large candidates, did they ask to be on the board?
- Hussein Torbati – The candidates turned in nomination forms, and we approached a few members for positions.
- Bobby Bosse – Have we seen the membership numbers changed over the past two years?
- Susan Thomas – We have an increase in membership.

- Alex Garcia – Looking at our bylaws if it takes a majority vote to make changes, so bringing in more ideas will help, and it will not affect our voting too much to get things passed. I think it is good for more ideas to be on the table.
- Hussein Torbati – That is one of the main reasons behind it. Right now we have one open seat but have seven people who want to be on the Board. Is there any other discussion?

Motion from the Governance Committee to add two additional Board seats to bring it up to 15; motion passes without opposition.

- Hussein Torbati – Opened up comments regarding the function of the Governance Committee and how candidates were selected for the ballot. He stated that it was the Governance Committee's job to talk to the candidates. Hussein Torbati stated that he talked to the candidates and asked them all types of questions since we want people who are in it for the long haul and want to make a difference. We cannot go by who has the most experience or who has been around the longest, we all know people who are qualified, but who should not be on the ballot. This is the process we use. We talked to everyone on this list. Not everyone that turned in a nomination form is on the ballot for whatever reason that the Governance Committee thought that they did not need to be on the ballot.
- Bobby Bose– Remember that the OAPA was advised to do it this way and go through the Governance Committee.
- Hussein Torbati – We are giving you the qualified names to vote on. Any of these names would be great on the board.
- Ken Stein – What is the criteria to be on the board?
- Hussein Torbati – They have to be an OAPA member and attend meetings, and then we ask them questions like, "What do you see the OAPA doing in 10 years?" Everyone had an idea to improve the OAPA Board and the Profession.
- Alex Garcia– Since there is an interaction with the AAPA are there any bylaws with them that we could be violating?
- Hussein Torbati – We are not violating anything.
- Hussein Torbati –It is our job to put who we think is going to do the best.

- Jon Click– It is refreshing to see how this is going, and getting new blood in.
- Bridget Keast – Just because you lose, we still want you to be on a committee.
- Hussein Torbati – If there is someone that was not on the list, we told them why, and still asked them to be apart in other ways. I just wanted you to be aware of the process.

Motion from the Governance Committee for this ballot to be submitted with the addition of Jeanine Smith as an At-Large Director; motion passes with one abstain from Alex Garcia.

V. Old Business

1. AAPA Leadership & Advocacy Summit – Tara Watson, Don Flinn

a. Tara Watson - Several of us went to DC to participate in the summit. It was interesting and good to spend time with other PAs and students from all of the other states. It was very eye-opening to see the other states restrictions and the limited practice that they have. I was also amazed at what the AAPA does for us. On Capitol Hill, we met with everyone's aids, and they took the time to talk to us. I think it went well.

VI. New Business

a. Tara Watson – I wanted to bring up the AAPA campaign that we are allowed to use. It was well done, and I think we should use it to our advantage.
   - Trea Beasler – They also have radio spots, articles, and videos that the OAPA can use.
   - Tara Watson– We have some bids for bus benches that we could use this ad on. The bus benches would be $1000 for ten benches for one month, and I am going to get bids for billboards.
   - Bobby Bosse– I think this would benefit PAs, and we should promote it
   - Tara Watson – AAPA's biggest item at the summit was to promote the PA profession.
   - Jon Click–We need to let the public know the difference between PAs and the NPs. This ad campaign would help do that.
   - Joey Medina– We need to promote just PAs and allow us to educate the public on the positives of the PA profession.
   - Tara – We need to talk about the budget to be able to promote this the way we want.

b. Hussien Torbati – After the election, we are going to have the committees picked. All committee chairs need to send Susan or me names of two members on the committee that are very active so that we can ask them to continue to be on that committee.
c. Susan Thomas Regarding students and inviting them to the OAPA Conference Reception. Is that something we want to do? How can we involve them more?
   - Hussein Torbati – Can the students give us ideas to include them.
   - Diana Wiley – I try to include the students in the OAPA, but to them, it is just another email. Without them having hands-on experience with the OAPA, I think that there is a disconnect.
   - Hussein Torbati – What will it take to make that connection with the students?

- Susan – We talked about doing a student track at the conference, but we would have to get the schools to let them out.
- Bobby – They have student brain and are worried about different things?
- Hussein Torbati – What can we do for OCU, let us know.
- Bobby Bosse– Let the OAPA come out to the students and do a reception for all of the students.
- Hussein Torbati – Can the students come up with a time and place that the OAPA can come out and do a reception for the students?
- Alex Garcia – We need to reach out every year, or every six months
- Megan Liles – We really need the students to hear from the OAPA more than once a year.

d. Don Flinn – I met with an attorney for Tulsa Pain Management. They have several PAs working for them. The Medical Board is investigating them and stated that they are not following the letter of the law. They want the OAPA to work with them to help them understand the PA laws better and to help clarify the rules for them.

Adjourn – 8:15 pm

Motion to adjourn made by Bobby Bosse; Bridget Keast seconds.