Oklahoma Academy of Physician Assistants
November 2020 Board Meeting Minutes
Hosted by Zoom
November 2, 2020
6:30 – 8:30 pm

Board Members Present: Gavin Christie, Paula Montgomery, Crystal Fredrickson, Jeff Burke, Christy Niehues, Sara Parr, Alex Garcia, Tara Watson, Devonna A'Belle, Erin O'Donnell, Keith Plummer, John Click, Natasha Simonson
Board Members Absent: Jeanine Smith, Elizabeth Disalvatore
Others Present: Susan Thomas, Melvin Oxendinell, Saura Douglas, Allyson Niblett, Jalyssa Valencia, Matt Latham, Phil Burke, Jan Loftis, Melody Yozzo, Allison Garrison, Audrey Poole

I. Call to Order 6:37

II. Approval of Agenda

- **Motion to approve Agenda made by Tara Watson; John Click seconds; Motion passes without opposition.**

III. Consent Agenda

1. General Membership Meeting Minutes
2. September Board Meeting Minutes
3. Student Reports

- **Motion to approve Consent Agenda made by Keith Plummer; Crystal Fredrickson seconds; Motion passes without opposition.**

IV. Reports

1. Legislative and Governmental – Tara Watson, Allison Garrison, Jan Loftis
   - Allison and Tyler are covering the DO licensing board meeting tonight to discuss rules. There was a meeting on Oct 15th at the State Medical Board with the DO Board, OSMA, and OOA. Mr. Lyle Kelsey hosted the meeting to discuss the rules. There was a question regarding the intent of our bill and if the legislators meant to lift the ratio requirements. They discussed the alternate supervising physician, even though that has been eliminated.
   - After the meeting, the authors of our bill sent a letter to Mr. Kelsey stating that they did know what they were passing and voting on and that they need to comply with the new bill. We gave them a deadline of Nov 4th to respond to the letter.

2. CME Committee – Saura Douglas and Susan Thomas
    - The overall conference went above and beyond what we expected. We have received comments from members that they would like to have an option for a virtual and in-person conference for the upcoming year. The surveys have been positive. The board reviewed an overall survey that will be sent out to the membership that will also include questions to help with the planning for the conference next year.
    - The financial report from conference was reviewed.
        - Six hundred one people registered for the conference. The highest number to date.
        - We had nine exhibitors, and three of them were prime sponsors.
    - Susan Thomas met with the Renaissance Tulsa and Hard Rock to discuss hosting the 2021 conference. It was challenging to work out a proposal, not knowing how many to expect due to the pandemic. The hotels cut everything by 25%. The proposals were reviewed by the board.
        - Renaissance: Room rate is $109 and a minimum of $22k in food and beverage.
        - Hard Rock: They are a non-smoking facility for now, but could change if the pandemic settles down. Room rate is $129 and a minimum of $22k in food and beverage.
        - VCUBE on-site services are around $2900 per day. (Some hotels do not allow outside AV to come in.)
    - **Keith Plummer Motions to have the 2021 conference in Tulsa at Hard Rock; Devonna A'Belle seconds;**
        - **Discussion:** Discussed negotiating the contract further if Hard Rock allows smoking again. We discussed having a poker tournament again since it was successful for PAPAC last time.
        - **Motion passes without opposition.**

3. Executive Director Report – Susan Thomas
    - Phil Burke provided an update on HOD. There is a separate registration for the title one investigation. There was a task force that was put together regarding title change.
    - The AAPA Conference is scheduled for May 22-26, 2021. Early registration for AAPA is now open.
    - The AAPA is still deciding if they will do the Leadership & Advocacy Summit virtually.
    - Membership numbers to-date for 2020 are 1325, 2019 was 1541, and 2018 was 1545.

4. Research Committee – Alex Garcia
    - The Research Committee came up with a question to go on the conference survey. The committee will review the answers and report back to the board.

5. Finance Committee – Paula Montgomery
    - We have emailed comparisons of Sept 2019 vs. Sept 2020 to see the difference. We were concerned about the conference; however, the conference went great. The October bills will be coming in for the conference, like food and lodging. Overall, we are doing fine and have not had to tap into anything so far. As legislation starts, we may have to dip into the savings.
    - This year we did not include staff bonus payments in the conference budget since the conference was virtual and we did not know financially how conference would do. The finance committee would like to make a motion.
    - **Motion: The finance committee would like to give Audrey Poole $1500.00 bonus and Susan Thomas $2000.00 bonus this year. Motion passes without opposition.**

V. Old Business

- None

VI. New Business

1. Jeff Burke: I reached out to Sondra DePalma for billing issues, and she helped with some of my concerns, so no need for further discussion.
2. AMA Social Media Attacks on PAs & NPs – Sara Parr
   - Allison Garrison: I visited with AAPA about the new AMA campaign. AAPA stated that they have taken down a lot of their posts and tweets.
   - The AAPA put out a formal statement to the AMA that it was improper timing about their campaign. AAPA is asking that the state organizations do not talk with AMA about this. The Nurse association is sending a letter.
   - Paula Montgomery: I have a new business. Food for thought our Capital One credit card has 349k plus points. We could use for other things in the future. It was discussed that we do use those for travel.

Motion to adjourn made by Keith Plummer.

Adjourn 7:56