Oklahoma Academy of Physician Assistants
July 2021 Board Meeting Minutes
Will Rogers Garden Exhibition Center, Meeting Room 1
3400 NW 36th St., OKC.
July 12, 2021; 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Board Members Present: Nicole Mason, Don Guthrie, Alex Garcia, Christy Niehues, Jeff Burke, Natasha Simonson, Jennifer Putnam, Gavin Christie, Erin O'Donnell

Board Members Participating by Zoom: Keith Plummer, Saura Douglas, Allyson Niblett

Board Members Absent: Crystal Fredrickson, Sarah Tyszko

Others Present: Susan Thomas, Audrey Poole, Jan Loftis, Sheila Walker

Others Present via Zoom: Jacob Ward, Jennifer Dotson, Jalyssa Valencia, Malyke Bray, Tyler Powell.

I. Call to Order 6:33 pm

II. President's Welcome and Introductions – Erin O'Donnell
- The board member introduced themselves.
- Erin O'Donnell welcomed everyone and expressed how excited and honored she was to be the OAPA President.

III. Approval of Agenda
- **Motion to approve agenda made by Jeff Burke; Alex Garcia seconds. Motion passes without opposition.**

IV. Consent Agenda
1. May 2021 Board Meeting Minutes
2. Student Reports
- **Motion to approve consent agenda made by Jeff Burke; Christy Niehues seconds. Motion passes without opposition.**

V. Reports
1. Legislative & Governmental– Jan Lofts, Tyler Powell
- Jan Lofits provided a summary of the past legislative year.
- The Lobbying Team will continue to meet with legislators, organizations, and others to help move the process along to get the new rules written.

- Jan Loftis discusses the attached lobbying team proposal.
- **Gavin Christie makes a motion to continue to pay Matt Latham and Tyler Powell at their requested rate of $2000 a month for June, July, and August; Jeff Burke seconds. Motion passes with one abstain.**
    - Alex Garcia - abstain, Erin O'Donnell - yes, Christy Neihues – yes, Don Guthrie – yes, Natasha Simonson – yes, Jeff Burke – yes, Jennifer Putnam – yes, Gavin Christie – yes, Saura Douglas – yes, Nicole Mason – yes, Keith Plummer – yes, Allyson Niblett – yes.

2. Governance Committee – Gavin Christie

a. Revised Bylaws

- The final Bylaw revisions have been provided to the board members for review before the board meeting and finalized with the attorney.
- Susan Thomas discussed some of the changes in the revised bylaws.
- **Gavin Christie motions to accept the Bylaws as amended; Saura Douglas seconds. Motion passes with one abstain.**
    - **Discussion:** There was concern that the revised bylaws give the president a lot of power. The Board was reminded that the additional power is only during a declared state of emergency
    - Alex Garcia – yes, Christy Neihues – yes, Erin O'Donnell – yes, Don Guthrie– yes, Nicole Mason – abstain, Natasha Simonson – yes, Jeff Burke – Yes, Jennifer Putnam - yes, Gavin Christie - yes, Saura Douglas – yes, Keith Plummer – yes, Allyson Niblett – yes.

b. Board Evaluation

- The board evaluation results were discussed with the Board. Most of the suggestions from the evaluation recommended that the Board have a detailed strategic plan.

3. CME Committee – Susan Thomas

- Reviewed Core Apps services and that there was not another product that would be cost-effective and useful for the conference. The Board decided not to use the credit from the previous year's cancellation.
- Discussed the need for board volunteers at the conference.
- I am still working on the 2023 contract with River Spirit.

4. Finance Committee – Don Guthrie

- Reviewed the budget and discussed that the two highest costs are legislative and administrative costs.

5. Social Committee – Erin O'Donnell

- The Energy Soccer Game is coming up. The Board is encouraged to attend.

VI. President's Report

1. Board Meetings/Location
    - The months and location will stay the same.
2. Goals/Projects – Board Orientation/Retreat:
    - Erin O'Donnell requests that board members email her their three biggest goals for the OAPA and let her know before the retreat.

- Discussed the orientation agenda and lunch break.
- **Gavin Christie Motions $500 for food for the board retreat; Christy Niehues seconds. Motion passes without opposition.**

3. Committee Assignments
    - The Board received the attached committee assignments before the meeting for their review.
    - The committee assignments were discussed, and Erin O'Donnell added Sheila Walker to the Legislative and Governmental Affairs Committee.
    - **Motion to approve the committee list as presented made by Christy Niehues; Natasha Simonson seconds. Motion passes without opposition.**

VII. New Business
- None

VIII. Old Business
- None

Motion to Adjourn: 8:32 pm