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

Board Present: Nicole Mason (Zoom), Don Guthrie (in person), Alex Garcia (in person), Christy Niehues (in person), Jeff Burke (in person), Natasha Simonson (Zoom), Gavin Christie (Zoom), Keith Plummer (zoom), Saura Douglas (zoom), Erin O'Donnell (in person), Crystal Fredrickson (in person), Sarah Tyszko (Zoom), Rachel Spencer (Zoom)

Board Members Not Present: Jennifer Putnam

Others Present in person: Susan Thomas, Audrey Poole, Jan Loftis, Allison Garrison

Others Present via Zoom: Jennifer Dotson, Malyke Bray, Bridget Keast, Sara Parr

I. Call to Order 6:31 pm

II. Approval of Agenda

- **Motion to approve Agenda made by Don Guthrie: Keith Plummer seconds. Motion passes without opposition.**

III. Consent Agenda

1. September 21, 2021, General Membership Meeting Minutes
2. September 2021 Board Meeting Minutes
3. Student Reports
4. Governance Committee and Social Committee Reports
5. Executive Director Report

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

IV. Reports

1. Legislative Committee – Crystal Fredrickson, Allison Garrison, Jan Loftis

- Jan Loftis –
    - Regarding the Schedule II's, we have been meeting with the major hospitals like Integris and Mercy to discuss and educate about the Schedule II update and work with them on what updates need to be done to their operating systems.
    - We are still working on getting the Pharmacy Board and the PBM's on the same page. They both agree with the update, but the Pharmacy Board would like written confirmation from the PBM's that they will agree to the update and to reimbursing them.
    - We are still waiting on a response to the Attorney General's Opinion regarding SB1915 and the ratio change.
    - Senator McCortney was named the new Senate Floor Leader. That is great news for PAs. He was recently given the Honorary PA award from the OAPA and is very pro PA.
    - There is a new committee at the Capital called the Joint Committee of Regulatory Rules. We have been in contact with them regarding the issue with the Medical Board and getting the new rules written to reflect the changes in SB 1915.
- Allison Garrison –
    - I met with Senator Hayes, he is the newly appointed Vice-Chair of the Health and Human Resources Committee, to brief him on everything that is going on. He is sensitive to our issues and is aware. The Oklahoma Health Care Authority has asked us to submit a name for their board. We have asked Tara Watson to submit her name.
- Jeff Burke: Comments Regarding the PA Advisory Committee and the new PA rules –
    - There has been a lot of discussion regarding Tele-Health. There will not be much change in that. PAs will still need to be working in Oklahoma, and their patient will still need to be in Oklahoma. We have spent many hours on the new rules and have gone through them line by line. If these new rules pass the committee, it will then go on to the Medical Board.

2. PR Committee – Natasha Simonson
    - We are meeting with two PR firms to hear their presentations on their ability to help the OAPA, especially with our legislative efforts. We will let the board know of these meetings and the conclusion the committee comes to.
3. CME Committee – Saura Douglas, Susan Thomas
    - Saura Douglas
        - Conference was very well received. We have read through all of the conference surveys and are taking in consideration all positive and negative comments.
    - Susan Thomas
        - Financially the conference did very well. We ended up with 612 registrations so far. V-Cube was great to work with again and did an excellent job. We will be checking with our website provider, Back-40, regarding the traffic issues that we experienced and working on getting them corrected. We have had a lot of positive comments regarding the hybrid conference format this year.

4. Finance Committee – Don Guthrie
    - Reviewed the current budget and the proposed budget for 2021-2022.
        - **Motion to approve in full the 2021-2022 budget was made by Keith Plummer; Natasha Simonson seconds. Motion passes without opposition.**
5. Governance Committee – Erin O'Donnell
    - Requested the Board to please look through the policies and let her know if they see anything that might need to be changed.
        - **Governance committee Motions to increase Susan Thomas's salary to $86,310 a year and added in her job description to "Oversee the OAPA Website." Motion passes without opposition.**
        - **Governance committee Motions to change Audrey Poole to a salaried employee of $33,176 a year with 6.5% given for retirement, and added to her job description to be available from 9:00am – 5:00pm Monday through Friday via phone or electronic means. Motion passes without opposition.**
        - **Governance committee Motions that Allison Garrison be given 6.5% for retirement and added to her job description "That she serves OAPA and AAPA", and to approve these changes to her annual contract and annual review. Motion passes without opposition.**

V. New Business

None

VI. Old Business

1. OAPA Committee Changes – Crystal Frederickson
    - Crystal Fredrickson did not present and asked for more time.

VII. Adjourn 7:55 pm