Oklahoma Academy of Physician Assistants
EST. 1974

Addendum to July 11, 2022, OAPA Board Meeting Minutes

1. Motion to approve OAPA Committee Chairs and Members

I. An email from Susan Thomas was sent to the Board of Directors on August 16, 2022, at 7:07am.

Good morning, please, find attached the list of committee members. Per policy, "The board shall have the power to create, revoke, or modify any committee." This is a starting point to help make the conversation easier to start than just a blank piece of paper.

I have also attached the board application for Robert Peevy and Amanda Garner since they are not on the board or have served on a committee before. I'm sure I can locate past board applications if there are others you would like to review, please, let me know.

Please reply to this email if you have changes to a committee.

Thank you, Keith, for all your time and hard work in developing the attached list. I know it's not an easy task to complete!

II. An email from Keith Plummer was sent to the Board of Directors on August 18, 7:23pm

We have had the committee lists for the required 24 hours. Do I hear a motion?

III. Motion:

Motion made by Natasha Simonson on August 18, 2022, 8:36 pm.

I make a motion to approve the proposed committee and chair assignments.

Discussion:

Jeff Burke: Please explain why we changed up the committee assignments again.

Keith Plummer: 1. Decrease the size of the committees. Limit them to five board members. 2. New voices, new input.

Motion seconded by Don Guthrie on August 19, 2022, 8:39 am.

IV. Discussion: The discussion opened on August 19, 2022 at 8:44 am.

Keith Plummer - We have a motion and a second. Discussion will be open for 24 hours.

Jeanine Smith - Jeff- I can tell you part of the change is the simple fact multiple board members were not on a committee. I am one of them. I believe it was an honest mistake but it is my understanding that the governance committee, Now that both of these issues have been resolved, the board needs to approve them. Hope this helps.

Crystal Fredrickson- I do have a question regarding the mentoring committee. We had discussed during our meeting to finalize the policies that this committee had not been utilized in years. We had discussed some redundancy in that committee with the student committee etc. I saw that there are a few names on that list that have not recently participated on a committee and I didn't want them to be disappointed in what the committee does/doesn't do. Would some of these want to do the one on one mentoring that we had discussed more specific to the student committee?

Keith Plummer - I believe you are correct Crystal. After we approve the new policies we can address that and get the members interested in mentoring involved. But until then we are operating under the old policies. At least I think that's what we have to do?

Crystal Fredrickson - I agree about following current policies. I just wondered since the list is still flexible if any wanted to jump ship to a more active committee. I'm perfectly content to leave it as is and really the one on one mentoring can happen regardless. It was just a thought since it was discussion time.

Jeff Burke - Who made the committee assignments? How do we go about changing it?

Erin O'Donnell - Discussion regarding current motion: In our Governance meetings in regard to Policies, we have been discussing putting the Mentoring Committee on hold as it has not been active and seems to be tasked with similar things as the Governance committee & Student committee as Crystal has stated. Giving this information as an FYI; when I am tallying how many committees each person is on, I am not taking this committee into consideration.

I made a list of each board member and assigned committees, and it does seem there is uneven distribution of board members, as well as of OAPA members on committees. There are some on 4-5 committees, and some on only 1 or 2. There is no specific written policy on this, but I do wonder, and up for discussion, if we should consider evenly distributing board members & members across committees. My concern is that if the same people are on all of the same committees, we lose some of our diversity in people coming together to advance and advocate for our profession. It creates more of a monopoly or executive branch. I would move that we more evenly distribute so that someone is on 2-3 committees. I have concern with a member serving on 5 committees, including committees he has not shown interest in based on application. I also have concern that if we are going to place a new applicant on all the committees he has asked for and more, why would we not do the same for other new applicants as well as board members.

I would like to see Jeff Burke added back to Legislative Committee, as he is currently playing an integral role for us at the medical board. His insight into these matters is important. I would also move for Amanda Garner to be added to the Legislative Committee.

I would also move to remove Robert Peevy from 2 of either Legislative, PA Relations, Finance or Research Committee. (He is also on mentoring committee, again this committee has been inactive.)

I would also like to see more diversity in the members of the Legislative Committee and Finance Committee. All committees are important, however these are 2 are vital to our organization and it would be nice to not have the same people on both of these committees, as well as Governance. This suggestion is based on creating diversity in groups where the meat of the work is done, to help make decisions and put new ideas, policies, etc before the board, not an executive branch making all of the decisions.

Yes, we are still operating under current policy where the President assigns committees based on interest as indicated in applications. We are moving toward new policy for future years where the Governance committee creates the committees based on applications. This is of course not what we are discussing today, this is FYI.

Melissa Loftis - I am new back to the board. Can someone explain /remind me how board members know about committees and know how to apply about committees. Thanks in advance

Erin O'Donnell - Melissa, I believe website, email with application (around time of elections) word of mouth and then there is an application they fill out. In years past, if someone has applied mid-year, the board can vote to add them to a committee in the middle of the year. Hope that helps!

V. Discussion ended and vote called on August 20, 2022, 2:37 pm. Motion failed.

Keith Plummer: We have now had more than 24 hours for discussion. We now have 24 hours to vote. It has been moved and seconded that the committees be approved as presented. All those in favor say "aye".

Saura Douglas – No
Erin O'Donnell – No
Audra Ball – No
Keith Plummer – Aye
Jeanine Smith – No
Crystal Fredrickson – No
Christy Niehues – No
Melissa Loftis – No
Alex Garcia - Abstain