



**Oklahoma Academy of Physician Assistants
November 2022 Board Meeting Minutes
Meeting held via Zoom
November 7, 2022, 6:30 pm**

Board Members Present: Keith Plummer, Saura Douglas, Erin O'Donnell, Natasha Simonson, Don Guthrie, Jeanine Smith, Alex Garcia, Jeff Burke, Audra Ball, Crystal Fredrickson, Meredith Ritchie

Board Members Absent: Christy Niehues, Nicole Mason, Melissa Loftis

Others Present: Audrey Poole, Susan Thomas, Jan Loftis, Tyler Powell, Matt Latham, Gavin Christie, Robert Peevy, Kristin Strong, Glenn Coffee, Lexi Norwood

I. Call to Order 6:31pm

II. Approval of Agenda

- **Motion to approve the agenda made by Jeff Burke; Alex Garcia seconds. Motion passes without opposition.**

III. Consent Agenda

1. September 21, 2022, General Membership Meeting Minutes
 2. September 23, 2022, Board Meeting Minutes
 3. Addendum to September 23, 2022, Board Meeting Minutes
 4. September 12, 2022, Emergency Board Meeting Minutes
 5. Student Reports
 6. Social Committee Report
- **Motion to approve the consent agenda made by Don Guthrie; Jeff Burke seconds. Motion passes without opposition.**
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IV. Reports

1. Legislative Committee – Alex Garcia, Jan Loftis
 - Alex Garcia:
 - We did everything right with the ratios and the Schedule II's. We followed the correct process. Legislators voted and approved, and the Governor signed them into law. Now the Medical Board

is not upholding the law. The subcommittee that was formed has influence in this matter when they should not.

- Jan Loftis:
 - Allison Garrison will be out on leave for the foreseeable future. The OAPA staff and the Lobby team are working together to cover her work.
 - Introduced the OAPA legal team; Glenn Coffee and Lexi Norwood.
 - Allison Garrison received a text from Lyle Kelsey from the Medical Board that a new set of draft rules are being drawn up by the subcommittee. The committee has made a few changes.
 - Removing the ratio language and reverting back to the original language.
 - Their legal counsel advised them that they have the power to refuse to put in language that reflects the new laws with Schedule II's and the ratios.
 - Jeff Burke had a conversation with Dr. Katsis that sits on the subcommittee, regarding the new draft rules. Jeff Burke tried to communicate and clarify certain items on behalf of the OAPA.
- OAPA Legal Team: Lexi Norwood
 - The legal team's recommendation is as follows:
 - The legal team will go to the November 17th Medical Board Meeting. If the Medical Board rejects the rules we will have a first look at the new rules which will likely say that PAs can not prescribe Schedule IIs. In that case we will be ready to file suite directly after that.
 - The Board asked questions regarding the details of a lawsuit.
 - The time frame for a lawsuit like this is 6-12 months, costing 10k-20k.
 - **Motion made by Don Guthrie to proceed with litigation per Coffee and Associates proposal; Alex Garcia seconds. Roll call vote:**
 - Alex Garcia – Yea
 - Don Guthrie - Yea
 - Keith Plummer – Yea
 - Natasha Simonson – Yea
 - Jeff Burke – Yea
 - Jeanine Smith – Yea
 - Erin O'Donnell – Yea
 - Crystal Fredrickson – Yea
 - Saura Douglas – Yea
 - Audra Ball – Yea

- Student Vote – Yea

Motion passes without opposition.

2. CME Committee – Susan Thomas

- Discussed the overall conference evaluation and conference financials.
- Discussed the differences from previous years.

3. Executive Director Report – Susan Thomas

- Speakers Ball is on January 28, 2023. Susan Thomas asked if we would like to keep the Friend Category at a budgeted cost of \$2500, including a table of ten, or do something different.
- There was a discussion regarding the benefit of adding a second table
- **Motion made by Alex Garcia to purchase a second table for the Speakers Ball next year with \$2500 coming out of savings; Crystal Fredrickson seconds. Motion passes without opposition.**

4. PR Committee – Natasha Simonson

- Discussed text platform statistics.
- Recommended additional ways to welcome new PAs from other states.
- **Motion made by Natasha Simonson to extend a free membership for the first year to PAs that are new to the State of Oklahoma; Don Guthrie seconds. Discussion as follows:**
 - If newly practicing PAs are paying \$10 for their first year of membership, then new to the state PAs should pay the same.
- **Natasha Simonson amends the previous motion to state the following: Motion to extend new to Oklahoma PAs a membership of \$10 for their first year; Don Guthrie seconds. Motion passes without opposition.**
- We will add a new Fellow and Chapter membership to the website to reflect the motion.

5. Governance Committee – Erin O'Donnell

- The policies with corrections have been sent to our attorney. We are waiting to get the corrected copy back for final approval.
- Don Guthrie – Financial Policy: We have been working with Merrill to provide possible templates to the attorney for the financial policies. If the attorney chooses to use one of those templates, it will save us time and money. The Finance Committee will give an update when we have one.

6. Finance Committee – Don Guthrie

- Discussed the OAPA budget.
- Discussed student program donations.

- In the past, we donated 3K to the classes without stipulations. The finance committee suggests that each class receiving the donation commit to having 100% class student memberships with the OAPA.
- The students in attendance agreed that would not be an issue and believed they already had that.
- **Motion made by Finance committee to give each of the classes 3k for travel with the anticipation of 100% OAPA membership.**

Discussion: We can send the programs a list of those that have signed up for student memberships, or the programs can send us a list to verify membership. This will ensure tracking of 100%.

Motion passes without opposition.

- CME Staff Bonuses will be discussed at the end of the meeting when the staff can leave the meeting.

V. New Business

1. Keith Plummer - I was on the quarterly constituent call for AAPA, and we discussed our situation with the Medical Board. They are very interested in our situation.

VI. Old Business

1. AAPA LAS Report – Audra Ball

- We had 4 students attend with Allison and me.
- There were two federal bills to lobby.
- We had a chance to speak with other PA state organizations about their state organization and their CME conferences. Other states were amazed by our conferences and the attendance that we get.

VII. CME Staff Bonuses:

Motion made by Don Guthrie to give a CME bonus of \$2500 to Susan Thomas and \$2000 to Audrey Poole; Alex Garcia seconds. Motion passes without opposition.

VIII. Motion to adjourn at 8:20 pm.