Oklahoma Academy of Physician Assistants
March Board Meeting Minutes
March 6, 2023
6:30 – 8:30 pm
Garden Exhibition Center – Meeting Room 1 and Zoom
3400 NW 36th St., OKC

Board Members Present: Keith Plummer, Jeff Burke, Don Guthrie (Zoom), Saura Douglas (Zoom), Audra Ball (Zoom), Alex Garcia, Christy Niehues, Erin O'Donnell, Crystal Fredrickson (Zoom), Melissa Loftis, Ryann Baxter (Zoom), Nicole Mason (Zoom), Jeanine Smith (Zoom)
Board Members Absent: Natasha Simonson
Others Present: Allison Garrison, Tyler Powell, Gary Perez, Richelle Voth (Zoom), Megan Viles (Zoom), Audrey Poole, Susan Thomas

I. Call to Order
- Called to order 6:35 pm

II. Approval of Agenda
- **Motion to approve Agenda made by Jeff Burke; Christy Niehues seconds. Motion passes without opposition.**

III. Approval of Consent Agenda
1. January Board Meeting Minutes
2. Student Reports
   - **Motion to approve Consent Agenda made by Jeff Burke; Christy Niehues seconds. Motion passes without opposition.**

IV. Reports
1. Legislative and Governmental – Alex Garcia, Allison Garrison, Jan Loftis
   - Allison Garrison:
     - We are five weeks into the legislative session.
     - March 23rd is the deadline to get bills from their house of origin.
     - The Legislative Committee will be meeting soon.
   - Tyler Powel:
     - Regarding our ongoing litigation, we are still waiting to hear if the Supreme Court will take original jurisdiction. If they do, a ruling will be made quickly.
     - There are a few bills that we are keeping an eye on and will inform you if they progress.
       - SB 458 – It is an APRN independent practice bill.
       - SB 303 – This is the Medical Board reform bill.
       - SB 707 – This is a bill regarding death certificates.
       - SB 292 – This is a bill regarding Syphilis and treatment. We are working on getting PAs on that bill.
     - We have been meeting with legislators to disapprove the Medical Board's Rules, and reminding them of what they initially voted on. The legislators can send the rules back to the Medical

Board if they do not accept them. The House will then pass a rules resolution. We want this to be disapproved in the House. We have met with the governor's counsel and prepared them of the Medical Board's rules.

2. Social Committee – Erin O'Donnell
    - The Legislative Reception will be on April 4th at the Social Capital from 5:30 – 7:30 pm. It is a come and go as you, please. We will be providing two drink tickets per person and light snacks. Shannon from AAPA will be attending.

3. CME Committee – Saura Douglas, Susan Thomas
    - Susan Thomas:
        - Regarding the 2023 OAPA CME Conference:
            - We are still working on speakers.
            - Courtney Abernathy will be working on a student challange bowl, and the final round will take place during the Thursday night reception.
            - We are looking into a game night for the reception. We have a company the hotel recommended that we will be reaching out to.
            - VCube will be the streaming service again. We will go back to the single page platform due to the extra cost and low attendance for virtual.
            - We will continue with Core Apps for our conference app.

4. Executive Director – Susan Thomas
    - Student Scholarship;
        - The funds for the student scholarship have gone down to $1000. In the past, we have provided a scholarship for $2000.00. Discussion followed regarding adding additional funds for this year.
            - **Motion made by Alex Garcia to pay a one-time amount of $1000.00 to the PA Student Scholarship from savings**; **Jeff Burke seconds. All in favor. Motion passes without opposition.**
        - PA Advisory Committee:
            - Don Flinn's term is up. He is willing to continue his term. The Board needs to submit three names and then make a recommendation from those three names. The board will submit names for Don Flinn, Alex Garcia, and Keith Plummer with a recommendation for Don Flinn.
        - Membership Renewal:
            - We have 715 current 2023 members. In 2022 we had 1650. We will be sending out another reminder to renew. Also, remember that many members pay right before the conference and at the end of the year to log CME.
        - OAPA Website Modification:
            - The Medical Board has requested all the CME certificates that we have on file for each PA. Our website was not developed to do a full system download of certificates. We will need Back 40 to upgrade the system to meet this request.
                - **Motion made by Jeff Burke to add $6000.00 to the website fund to allow for CME logging to the Medical Board from savings; Melissa Loftis seconds. Crystal Fredrickson abstains, all others in favor. Motion passes.**
                    - Allison Garrison has requested that we inform our legal team of the Medical Boards request before any records are sent over.

5. Governance Committee – Keith Plummer
    - The Governance Committee met, but we did not have a quorum.
    - We are currently recruiting for our elections. We do not have a full ballot to bring to the board. Once we have a full ballot, we can bring it to the board. We need to vote on the terms of the elections per our new policies.
        - **Motion made by Christy Niehues to allow two weeks for viewing the ballot and two weeks for voting on the ballot; Alex Garcia seconds. Crystal Fredrickson abstains, all others in favor. Motion passes.**
        - Gary Perez (Director of the OU-OKC PA Program) asked how the director's committee works. This was explained to him. He will reach out to the other program directors and work on getting all the directors to participate in this committee.

6. Finance Committee – Don Guthrie
    - The Finance Committee has three primary issues.
        - OAPA Investment Opportunities
            - The Finance Committee met with Merrill Lynch and listened to a presentation regarding our options for investments. We chose an option that was very conservative.
                - **Motion made by the Finance Committee to invest 750k into the bond program with Merrill Lynch. Crystal Fredrickson abstains, all others in favor. Motion passes.**
        - Display Registration for the PLICO Conference:
            - **Motion from the Finance Committee to increase the display registration of $1200 to attend the PLICO Conference from savings. Crystal Fredrickson abstains, all others in favor. Motion passes.**
        - Financial Policies
            - The Financial Policies are ready to be voted on. All members received these policies to review.
                - **Motion made by Jeff Burke to approve the Financial Policies; Alex Garcia seconds. Crystal Fredrickson abstains, all others in favor. Motion passes.**
        - The deadline for committees to turn in budgets is May 1st.

V. Unfinished Business

1. PA Compact Legislation
    - Keith Plummer: The board received the compact legislation wording to review. The Legislative Committee will take over this. We can not introduce it into legislation his year, but we can next legislative session.
    - Keith Plummer: During our first OAPA Board meeting of the year, we voted and approved to change the Academy name. This will have to be a bylaw change. We will discuss when is best to do this because of the legislative climate. This will just be the Academy's branding and name.

VI. New Business

- None

Adjourn: 7:50pm

- **Motion made to adjourn by Alex Garcia; Jeff Burke seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.**