Oklahoma Academy of Physician Assistants
June 2023 Special Board Meeting Agenda
Via Zoom
June 29, 2023
6:30pm

Board Members Present: Jeanine Smith, Keith Plummer, Crystal Fredrickson, Nicole Mason, Alex Garcia, Jeff Burke, Melissa Loftis, Christy Niehues, Saura Douglas, Natasha Simonson, Don Guthrie, Audra Ball
Board Members Absent: Kristin Strong, Erin O'Donnell
Others Present: Susan Thomas, Audrey Poole, Helga Price

I. Call to Order – 6:35pm

II. LAS Attendance – Susan Thomas

- We normally send a few board members to LAS each year. We would like to send members that have not been before. Early registration is July 14th. Sara Parr and Jeanine Smith are both interested in going. Other board members are to let Susan know if they would like to attend.

III. Budget – Don Guthrie

- The Board will need to decide on what we will spend on employees, lobbyists, and legislative/legal issues.
- We are currently over our budget by 80k. This is with the potential numbers for raises for staff and our lobbyist and legal fees.
- We have money in savings to use towards these items if needed.
- We must discuss how to make a balanced budget with these items.

V. Conference Registration and Dues Increase – Don Guthrie, Susan Thomas

- Susan Thomas discussed the numbers for our current dues. From 2010-2019 dues were $125. In 2020 we increased the dues to $175 and gave a discount to those that attended the conference for their dues. Those that attended the conference received their dues for $50.
- Keith Plummer suggested raising the dues for those that attend the conference from $50 to $100, and those that do not attend the conference to raise their dues to $195.
- Keith Plummer also suggested raising conference registration to $525 for members and $575 for non-members. These suggestions were to cover the overage in the budget.
- The board discussed different options for dues, and conference increases to fix the overage in the budget.

- **Motion made by Jeff Burke to increase the CME cost from $475 to $525 for members and from $499 to $550 for non-members, and to increase the dues from $50-$100 for those that attend the conference and from $175 - $195 for those that do not attend the conference, Don Guthrie seconds. The vote is as follows: Jeanine Smith – No, Keith Plummer – Yes, Jeff Burke – Yes, Melissa Loftis – Yes, Audra Ball – Yes, Saura Douglas – No, Natasha Simonson – No, Nicole Mason – Abstain, Crystal Fredrickson – Yes, Christy Niehues – Yes, Don Guthrie – Yes, Alex Garcia – Abstain. Motion Passes.**

IV. Legislative Committee Report – Alex Garcia, Keith Plummer

- Alex Garcia presented what the Legislative Committee discussed regarding the lobbyist's raises.
- **The Legislative Committee motions to give Jan Loftis her full requested raise and Matt Lathum and Tyler Powell half of their requested increase for 3 months until the legislative agenda is developed.**
    - **Discussion: Jeanine Smith asked for clarification on what the raise amount is. Alex clarified by saying that Jan Loftis would be getting a raise of 6k, and Tyler and Matt would be getting half of the 29% raise they asked for. The board also discussed what other PA organizations pay for their lobby team and what the average cost of a lobbyist is.**
    - **Vote as follows: Keith Plummer - No, Audra Ball - Abstain, Natasha Simonson - Yes, Saura Douglas - Abstain, Jeanine Smith - No, Melissa Loftis - Abstain, Nicole Mason - No, Crystal Fredrickson - Yes, Christy Niehues - No, Don Guthrie - No, Alex Garcia - Abstain, Jeff Burke - Yes. Motion fails.**

- Susan Thomas stated that we need to figure out what we will do with Matt and Tylers contracts as they end June 30th, 2023.

- **Jeff Burke Motions that we pay Matt Lathum and Tyler Powell from July 1st – September 31st at $2000 a month, until we have a clearer view of what our legislative needs are, Crystal Fredrickson seconds. Votes as follows; Alex Garcia abstains, all others in favor. Motion passes.**

VI. Governance Committee Report – Keith Plummer

- Leadership & Advocacy Liaison Position was discussed.
    - Allison Garrison submitted her resignation.
    - The Board discussed how to move forward with that position.
    - **Natasha Simonson motioned to approach Allison Garrison on continuing our relationship with her representing the OAPA in her current position, Jeff Burke seconds. Roll call votes as follows: Keith Plummer – No, Jeanine Smith – Abstains, Natasha Simonson – Yes, Audra Ball – Yes, Saura Douglas – Yes, Melissa Loftis – Yes, Nicole Mason – Yes, Crystal Fredrickson – Abstain, Christy Niehues – Abstain, Don Guthrie – No, Alex Garcia – Abstain. Motion Carries.**

- Staff Salaries
    - Audrey Poole and Susan Thomas left the meeting.
    - Board discussed the staff salaries and raises.
    - **Motion from the Governance Committee to give Audrey Poole and Susan Thomas a 3% raise. All votes No. Motion fails.**
    - The board then discussed other options for a raise.
    - **Motion made by Crystal Fredrickson to give Audrey Poole and Susan Thomas a raise of 12%, Don Guthrie seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.**

Adjournment: 9:00 pm

Motion to adjourn made by Keith Plummer; Christy Niehues seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.