Oklahoma Academy of Physician Assistants
November 2023 Board Meeting Minutes
November 6, 2023, 6:30 pm Zoom

Board Members Present: Helga Price, Jennifer Putnam, Sara Parr, Keith Plummer, Saura Douglas, Nicole Mason, Melissa Loftis, Jeff Burke, Natasha Simonson, Phil Green, Audra Ball, Elizabeth Disalvatore, Kaelyn Davis (Student)

Board Members Absent: Don Guthrie, Christy Niehues

Others Present: Audrey Poole, Tyler Powell, Susan Thomas, Jan Loftis, Ashley Codding, Matt Lathum, Alex Garcia, Emma Williams (Student), Keeley Cunningham (Student)

I. Call to Order – Saura Douglas, President 6:33pm

II. Approval of Agenda – Saura Douglas, President

- **Motion to approve Agenda made by Keith Plummer, Jennifer Putnam seconds. All in favor. Motion Passes.**

III. Approval of Consent Agenda – Saura Douglas, President

1. September 13, 2023 General Membership Meeting Minutes
2. September 15, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes
3. Addendum to the September 15, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes
4. Student Reports

- **Motion to approve Consent Agenda made by Keith Plummer, Jennifer Putnam seconds. All in favor. Motion Passes.**

IV. Reports

1. Legislative Committee – Jeff Burke, Jan Loftis
    - Update on the Compact Licensure Bill:
        - We have been working with AAPA on this.
        - We have an author for the bill: Senator Adam Pew. Representative Collin Duel will file the bill.
        - We have received a few questions, but overall, it is being well received.
    - Update on rules process:

- Negotiations have been ongoing with the PA Advisory Committee and the Medical Board themselves.
- A sub-committee was formed over the summer to help with the rules.
- Discussion and Negotiations were as followed:
  - PAs could have Schedule II but with limitations on ratios.
  - No Schedule II could be written if the PAs Delegating Physician was from out of state.
  - They were not comfortable with a Physician in the state delegating to no more then six PAs with Schedule II, without Schedule II there would be no ratio.
  - PAs would be required to receive six hours of CME regarding substance abuse each year.
  - PAs could not write for Schedule II without a separate written agreement with their Delegating Physician.
  - Concerns were raised on how they would know if a Delegating Physician and PA agreement allows for Schedule II.
- Those rules were attempted to be presented at the last PA Advisory Committee, and the physicians on that committee wanted to table the rules. They were concerned the Pharmacist would not be able to tell if this was a legal prescription. How would they know that a particular PA has the ability to write for Schedule II according to their agreement with their Delegating Physician. A motion was passed to table the rules.
- There is a deadline of Dec 22, 2023 to file rules.
- On Dec 12, 2023 there will be a special PA Advisory Committee meeting to only discuss the rules. Before this meeting on the 12th there will be a separate subcommittee meeting.

- Update on APRN Bill:
  - Tyler Powell met with one of the APRNs lobbyist and they are planning on running the bill on a fast track. We talked to the Senate Floor Majority Leader and he was not aware of that intention.
  - The Lobby Team feels if they get the bill going and it is passed that the OAPA needs to be ready to do the same.
  - **Motion made by Phil Green that we task the lobby team to seek legal counsel to update the PA act if needed, Helga Price seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.**

2. Research Committee – Nicole Mason
   - The Research Committee looked into the states that have PA boards and those states that have passed legislation with some level of independent practice.
     - States with some level of independent practice is six. All but one of those states has a graduated level of independent practice.
     - States that have their own PA board is seven.
     - Nicole Mason will send the report as an attachment in an email with more detailed information.

3. CME Committee – Saura Douglas, Christy Niehues, Susan Thomas
   - Susan Thomas: The committee met but did not have a quorum. The committee discussed and would like to go to Embassy Suites downtown for 2024, and back to the

River Spirit for 2025. We then discussed that would give us enough time to plan a destination conference in 2026.

- **Motion to use Embassy Suites downtown for 2024 conference and River Spirit for 2025 conference made by Phil Green, Jeff Burke seconds. All were in favor. Motion passes.**

4. Social Committee – Christy Niehues
    - *Christy Niehues was unable to attend the meeting. No update from the Social Committee.*

5. PR Committee – Natasha Simonson
    - AAPA helped with Harris Poll data and media coverage regarding that. Don Guthrie and Audra Ball were interviewed for that media coverage.
    - Hussien Torbati, his wife, and the non-profit Sun Hive Collective were interviewed and received media coverage.

6. Governance Committee – Keith Plummer
    - The Bylaws were changed with the name to Oklahoma Academy of Physician Associates and a change in terms for certain positions.
    - Suara Douglas stepped down as the Governance Committee Chair and the committee nominated Keith Plummer for that position.
    - **Motion made by Phil Green to make Keith Plummer the Chair of the Governance Committee, Helga Price seconds. All were in favor. Motion passes.**
    - **Motion made by the Governance Committee to approve the Bylaws, Phil Green seconds. All were in favor. Motion passes.**
    - We have a few interviews for the liaison position coming up and will keep you updated.
    - We will be working on the policies for the name change.

7. Finance Committee – Keith Plummer
    - Summary of budget was discussed. Budget was also emailed out ahead of time.
    - **Motion to approve August 2023 and September 2023 budget made by Phil Green, Helga Price seconds. All were in favor. Motion passes.**

V. New Business

1. Tim Hale, House District 39 – Ashley Codding, PA-C

- Tim Hale is running for House District 39 and was introduced by his daughter Ashley Codding, PA.
- Tim Hale discussed a little about whom he is running against and that he is aware of PA issues and wants to extend his support to PAs.
- Once Tim Hale and Ashley Codding left the Zoom meeting, it was discussed that PAPAC would issue Tim a check for $250 towards his campaign.

VI. Old Business

1. AAPA LAS Report – Sara Parr and Jennifer Putnam

- LAS: Sara Parr – No students were there this year. The two main things discussed were:
    - PAs being able to write for diabetic shoes.
    - Federal workers being able to see PAs for work comp issues.

2. PAPAC – Saura Douglas

- Audra Ball has agreed to be the chair of PAPAC.

VII. Adjourn 8:08pm

- Motion to Adjourn made by Keith Plummer, Phil Green seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.