Oklahoma Academy of Physician Assistants
January 2024 Special Board Meeting Minutes
January 21, 2024, 6:00 pm via Zoom

Board Members Present: Saura Douglas, Jeff Burke, Keith Plummer, Don Guthrie, Christy Niehues, Nicole Mason, Sara Parr, Audra Ball, Melissa Loftis, Kaelyn Davis
Board Members Not Present: Natasha Simonson, Elizabeth DiSalvatore, Phil Green, Jennifer Putnam, Helga Price
Others Present: Audrey Poole, Tyler Powell, Matt Lathum, Jan Loftis

Call to Order: 6:07pm

- Meeting was called to discuss the Liaison position.
- Marian Clopton declined a second interview.
- The board discussed hiring a part-time lobbyist for this legislative session only since we do not have time to get a liaison hired and trained in time for this legislative session.
- The board members will submit times and days they are available to help the lobby team this session.
- Jan Loftis agreed to take on the responsibility of writing the legislative updates to the board, legislative committee, and the membership.
- **Motion to hire a part-time lobbyist for 20k to come on during the 2024 session only to help with our legislative push made by Jeff Burke; Don Guthrie seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.**
- The search for the Liaison will continue. It was suggested to review how the position was posted and to review previous applicants.
- Audra Ball stated that she had possible lobbyist recommendations, including her husband, Matt Ball. Jan Loftis stated that for full disclosure, he was on the top of the list. There were no board concerns regarding a conflict to hire Matt Ball as the lobbyist for this session.

Adjourn 6:40 pm