Oklahoma Academy of Physician Associates
May 2025 Board Meeting Minutes
May 5, 2025, 6:30 – 8:30 pm
Via Zoom

Board Members Present: Jeff Burke, Don Guthrie, Saura Douglas, Natasha Simonson, Christy Niehues, Phil Green, Nicole Mason, Keith Plummer, Audra Ball, Melissa Loftis, Jennifer Putnam, Helga Price, Jenna Smith

Board Members Not Present: Krista Barnes, Elizabeth DiSalvatore

Others Present: Audrey Poole, Susan Thomas, Jan Loftis, Hannah George, Abigail Rupp, Tyler Powell, Andrew Doak, Johnnie Gilpen

I. Call to Order
- Call to order at 6:35pm by Jeff Burke

II. Approval of Agenda
- **Motion to approve agenda made by Christy Niehues, Phil Green seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.**

III. Approval of Consent Agenda
1. March 2025 Board Meeting Minutes Approval
2. Student Reports
- **Motion to approve consent agenda made by Helga Price, Christy Niehues seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.**

IV. Liaison Position
- Jeff Burke explains the reasoning for making the liaison position in the past. Jeff asks each board member and staff what they think the position looks like in the future.
  - Several board and staff stated that this discussion needs to happen at the committee level first.
  - **Keith Plummer motions to task the Governance Committee with the OAPA employment situation and to research the OAPA needs. Don Guthrie seconds. Discussion as follows:**
    - **Natasha Simonson stated that the OAPA needs to look at how this position will work from here on out.**

What does it look like for Audrey Poole to take over Susan Thomas's position in the future.

- **Christy Neihues stated that she felt the new OAPA position needs to be more administrative.**
- **All in favor. Motion passes.**

V. Reports

1. Legislative Committee – Don Guthrie and Jan Loftis
   - HB 2584 is due to hit the senate floor any day.
   - The recent Call to Action went out to around 2000 PAs.
   - HB 2298 APRN Bill has continued to be amended.
   - OSMA Survey: The lobby team feels this may be used to persuade the governor but are not sure.
   - The PA rules were heard today in committee and passed out of committee.

2. PAPAC – Audra Ball and Nicole Mason
   - Audrey Poole went over current PAPAC numbers.

3. Social Committee Report – Christy Niehues
   - Next Town Hall meeting will be in July. More details to come.
   - Conference Reception will be a casino night. Working on securing a vendor to sponsor the cost.

4. CME Committee Report – Christy Niehues, Saura Douglas, Susan Thomas
   - Working on getting conference registration up. We are hoping to have it up before June.
   - We are still contacting speakers and confirming times.
   - **Motion from the CME committee to use Momentive as our app provider for the conference. All in favor. Motion passes.**

5. Executive Director Report
   - Jeff Burke has expressed interest in going to LAS.
   - Audrey Poole has been working with Benchmark, the email provider, to improve email sending rates.
   - Audrey Poole will be working on reaching out to board members to help update the website.
   - The July board meeting will be moved from the 7th to the 14th.

6. PR Committee – Helga Price
   - We are still researching PR firms.
     - Golden Group seems like a good firm. Their price is around 50k-80k for the year. We will need to look at the budget.

- Candor has a price minimum per job of 20k. They also represent the NPs.

7. Governance Committee – Jeff Burke
    - Board Survey – Everything looked pretty good. There was a mention to have more in person meetings. Don Guthrie will try to move to in-person during his presidency.
    - Krista Barnes is moving to Missouri. She is still wanting to stay as the OAPA Treasurer for this upcoming year. We will make adjustments if needed.
        - **Motion from the Governance Committee to accept Gavin Christie's resignation. All in favor. Motion passes.**

8. Board Retreat – Don Guthrie
    - Board retreat was April 26-27th. We had a great turnout. We discussed how the board and committees work together and developed a strategic plan. Don gave a recap of the retreat.

9. Finance Committee – Don Guthrie
    - Went over the presented budget.
    - We are looking into increasing the PR budget for this upcoming year.

VI. New Business
    - None

VII. Old Business
    - None

Adjourn: 7:52 PM
Motion to adjourn made by Jeff Burke. Don Guthrie seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.