Oklahoma Academy of Physician Associates
September 2025 Board Meeting Minutes
September 19, 2025, 12:15 – 2:15 pm
River Spirit Casino Resort, Tulsa, OK
Meeting Room 2

Board Members Present: Keith Plummer (by phone), Melissa Loftis (by phone), Johnnie Gilpen, Helga Price, Nicole Mason, Courtney Patin, Jeanine Smith, Samantha Simmons (student representative), Elizabeth DiSalvatore, Don Guthrie, Christy Niehues, Krista Barnes

Board Members Not Present: Jennifer Putnam, Jeff Burke, Audra Ball

Others Present: Susan Thomas, Audrey Poole

I. Call to Order

- Meeting called to order at 12:43 pm

II. Approval of Agenda

- **Motion to approve agenda made by Helga Price; Christy Neihues seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.**

III. Approval of Consent Agenda

1. July 2025 Board Meeting Minutes Approval

2. Student Reports

- **Motion to approve consent agenda made by Christy Neihues; Helga Price seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.**

IV. Reports

1. Legislative & Governmental Affairs – Keith Plummer
    - Most of the update was presented during the General Membership meeting.
    - We will have a "clean up" bill for the 2026 Legislative Session.
    - We are discussing the possibility of adding a name change to the cleanup bill.
    - We will be continuing the process of the permanent rules.

2. Governance Committee – Don Guthrie
    - OKIPA will be working on setting up a way for OAPA members to sign up for $60.

- We are working on a new staff position and restructuring of the OAPA staff positions and pay. Susan will get information to the Governance Committee to discuss and vote on before the November board meeting. This way we can have a proposal for the Board at the next meeting.

3. PAPAC – Audra Ball, Nicole Mason
    - Went over the current PAPAC numbers.
    - Wanting to continue with a newsletter.
    - Would like to do ongoing prizes throughout the year.

4. CME Committee – Saura Douglas, Christy Niehues, Susan Thomas
    - We will send out a survey to the membership on different days, times, and locations for conference.
    - If we stay at the River Spirit, we will need to adjust our schedule to be out of here on Friday by 1:00pm.

5. Executive Director Report – Susan Thomas
    - Speakers Ball table prices went from $2,500 per table to $3,000 per table. Do we want to reserve two tables at the increased price?
    - **Motion to approve spending $3,000 per table, for two tables, for the Speakers Ball made by Helga Price; Christy Niehues seconds.**
        - **Helga Price amended motion to take the additional $1000 increase for the Speakers Ball tables from savings made by Helga Price; Johnnie Gilpen seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.**

6. Awards Committee – Jeanine Smith
    - There has been a request to keep the award nomination form up year-round. We will keep it posted on the website.

7. PR Committee – Helga Smith
    - We need to work on getting our message out to the membership and increasing engagement.
    - We will be meeting with the Goodin Group again to restructure our proposal with them. We will then discuss it in committee and bring it to the board.
    - The next Town Hall will be in Enid.
    - We are still looking for personal interest stories.
    - We are in search of PAs to fill slots on different news segments.

8. Social Committee – Christy Niehues
    - Will be finalizing Town Hall date and location for October.

9. Research Committee – Nicole Mason
    - Working on updated flyers for the lobby team to use.
    - Past research:

        - Independent Practice in other states.
        - How Pas impact the Healthcare system.
    - Current research:
        - Complying data to see if the new independent practice law in Oklahoma will impact over all PA licenses in Oklahoma, and if it does, how does it impact.

10. PA Relations Committee – Jennifer Putnam
    - No report.

11. Student Advisory Committee – Elizabeth DiSalvatore
    - Presented a summary of what slides are presented to students when an OAPA representative speaks with PA students.
    - Would like to see a student mixer for student engagement.
    - Help secure preceptors for PA programs.
    - Possibly doing a student-only track at the OAPA conference.

12. Finance Committee – Krista Barnes
    - Krista discussed the July budget that was given to the board prior to the meeting.
        - **Motion to approve the July Budget made by Helga Price; Nicole Mason seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.**

V. New Business

- None

VI. Old Business

- None

Motion to adjourn at 1:58 pm made by Helga Price; Courtney Patin seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.