

Telehealth Alliance of Oklahoma (TAO) Meeting Minutes

10/11/2016

Attendance: *Scott Bumgarner, Derek Dobbins, Sandra Harrison, Dr. Ariel Lufkin, Reji Varghese, Josh Braziel (remote) Robin Moore, Patti Davis, Marci White, Jennifer Kellbach, Spencer Kusi, Janet Wilson, Randy Curry (remote), Sandra Dodson Ellis*

Welcome/Opening Remarks: The meeting was called to order at 10:12 a.m. by Mr. Regi Varghese. Introductions were made of all in attendance, and a quorum was present.

Review of minutes: Meeting minutes from September were reviewed, a motion to approve was made by Dr. Ariel Lufkin, seconded by Ms. Sandra Harrison, and the motion was passed.

Treasurer Report: The treasurer's report from September was tabled due to transition of TAO Executive Director.

Educational presentation: An informative presentation by Nathaniel Lacktman, JD, was provided remotely, from Oregon. Mr. Lacktman is a healthcare lawyer and senior partner with Foley and Lardner, LLP, and heads the firm's telemedicine and virtual care practice nationwide. Mr. Lacktman gave a wide-ranging talk covering many aspects of telemedicine, but focused in primarily on reimbursement, insurance coverage, policy, and current practices and trends. It was very timely and the group was able to relate national trends to Oklahoma.

Old Business:

Reimbursement: Ms. Harrison updated the group on state progress concerning Medicaid, noting the OHCA was not going along with the current repeal of the informed consent requirement for telemedicine. There is now movement forward to repeal the requirement, and it's currently going through emergency rulemaking, but will be time consuming. Mr. Varghese gave a more detailed explanation of the process.

Commercial payor reimbursement: to introduce a bill improving payment will require a lot of effort, and the insurance lobby may halt it if a plan is not already negotiated prior to the bill introduction.

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E-health conference: Mr. Varghese updated the group, noting only 47 had registered, and encouraged the group to help get the registration numbers up. A lineup of speakers was given, as well as the day's agenda.

Resource Committee update: Derek Dobbins gave an update, call lists were discussed, and Sandra Dodson Ellis mentioned a mailing list she received from the PA conference, but to utilize it would require some funding for postage.

Miscellaneous:

Transition: Mr. Varghese updated the group on the distribution of duties with Cynthia's departure. He has graciously picked up many of the operation executive duties; Ms. Harrison can help out with some fiscal duties, auditing, and possibly provide for some clerical duties in the short term. Larger concerns for TAO moving forward are its core advocacy and educational activities, and how to continue providing for them. There was also discussion of what will happen to Cynthia's position, and HRTC funding.

Educational speakers for TAO meetings: the group was encouraged to seek out speakers for TAO meetings.

Oklahoma Health Department: Jennifer Kellbach and Spencer Kusi updated the group on telehealth initiatives, also calling for technical assistance, and with a survey as well.

Meeting location: due to changes in the staffing and location of the ODMHSAS, for the time being further meetings will be held at the Oklahoma Medical Board conference room, located at 101 NE 51st St, Oklahoma City, OK 73105

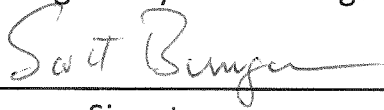
Meeting adjournment: A motion was made for the meeting to adjourn by Sandra Harrison, and was seconded by Scott Bumgarner. It passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:48.

Upcoming TAO meetings at Oklahoma State Medical Board offices from 10:00 to noon:

- November 8th, 2016* On site: 101 NE 51st St, Oklahoma City, OK 73105

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Minutes signed by Scott Bumgarner, Secretary



Signature



Date