

# Telehealth Alliance of Oklahoma (TAO) Meeting Minutes

## 4/14/2020

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**In Attendance: All Virtual:** Candace Shaw, Tim Davis, Sandra Harrison, Reji Varghese, Nate Draper, Molly McCool Hare, Mark Woodring, Carolina Morris, Bryce Ell, Brent Wilborn, Randy Curry, Mary Daniel, Emily Sederstrom, Josh Braziel, Samantha Mohr, Shannon Tice, Stacie McLaughlin, Darby Knox, Shar Dodoo, Ariel Lufkin and David Harris.

**Welcome/Opening Remarks:** The meeting was on-line only and called to order at 10:04 a.m. by Ms. Sandra Harrison, roll was taken and introductions were completed.

**Meeting minutes:** The meeting minutes were reviewed from March. A motion to approve was made by Ms. Candace Shaw, and seconded by Mr. Brent Wilborn. The motions were passed, and minutes approved.

**Treasurer's report:** The treasurer's report from March was presented by Ms. Shaw, who gave a brief explanation of the details; no deposits and no checks. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Reji Varghese, and seconded by Mr. Josh Brazeal. The motions were passed, and minutes approved.

**Legislative update:** Ms. Sandra Harrison gave an update the State of Oklahoma has a revenue failure of \$460+ million. Rural broadband bill was initiated by the Speaker, but Governor Stitt not willing to sign. Legislature in recess due to COVID-19; anticipated return of May or even sooner. OHA along with other medical associations have requested a few items regarding telemedicine. Payment Parity is missing; BCBS appears to paying parity. Mr. Reji Varghese provided additional information regarding temporary critical needs licensing to out of state providers. 36 critical need licenses have been granted as of 4/14/2020. Licenses are available within 24 hours and good for a 90 day period or 14 days after the Governor's Executive Order ends. The Governor's Executive Order also allowed for various public agencies to conduct open meetings via teleconference. Ms. Harrison reviewed Executive Order language. Insurance companies need to be platform agnostic is regards to telemedicine technology as well as accept standard CPT coding. Ms. Harrison highlighted topics on a resource paper she distributed via e-mail. Dr. Mark Woodring discussed the State of

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Oklahoma surge readiness program and the Telehealth Solutions telehealth cart distribution. Mr. Josh Brazeal asked to loop in due to their staff in various locations and facilities. Mr. Brazeal also noted his group is offering free tablets, set-up and connection to long-term care facilities.

**Educational Presentation:** Due to all of the COVID-19 coverage, no educational presentation was given.

**Director's report:** Mr. Tim Davis stated the TAO website is being updated on an on-going basis with the latest COVID-19 information as well as information from the CARES Act regarding telemedicine. Going forward, the TAO Zoom meetings will include a password. Mr. Davis and Candace Shaw attended an HTRC weekly ECHO. David Harris and CareVisor will be joining TAO as a new member.

**Other Business:** Ms. Shannon Tice spoke on a federal funding mechanism, COVID-19 Telehealth Program, part of the CARES Act. An Emergency program, but is not available to all health care provider. Funded for \$200 million. Will fund certain telehealth technology, connectivity, information services / remote monitoring, etc. Needs to be related to COVID-19. Consortiums can apply, but must follow the eligibility criteria. The OUSF version was briefly discussed as well.

**Meeting adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 11:14 a.m.

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

- May 12th, 2020 On site: 101 NE 51st St, Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Minutes signed by Tim Davis, Executive Director

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Signature

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Date