

# Telehealth Alliance of Oklahoma (TAO) Meeting Minutes

## 2/11/2020

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**Attendance:** Josh Braziel, Tim Davis, Brent Wilborn, Candace Shaw, Molly McCool-Hare, Nate Draper, Scott Bumgarner, Reji Varghese, Darby Knox, Alex Kirby, Mary Daniel, Randy Curry (remote), and Dr. Waseem Ghannam (remote).

**Welcome/Opening Remarks:** The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Ms. Josh Braziel, roll was taken and introductions were completed.

**Meeting minutes:** The meeting minutes were reviewed from both December and January. The December minutes had a motion to approve by Ms. Candace Shaw, and a second by Mr. Scott Bumgarner. The minutes were approved. The January minutes had a motion to approve by Ms. Shaw, and a second by Mr. Nate Draper. The January minutes were approved.

**Treasurer's report:** The treasurer's report from January was presented by Ms. Shaw, who gave a brief explanation of the details. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Bumgarner, and a second by Mr. Draper, and the report was approved.

**Legislative update:** Ms. Sandra Harrison, who normally gives the legislative update, was absent. Mr. Reji Varghese gave the update in her place, working from a list of 47 bills that may touch telehealth in some way. He noted that it was still early in the process, and that there were likely many shell bills with similar, vague language that will be changed at some date. Mr. Varghese noted the following bills, many as holdouts from last year: HB 2081 by Dollens, HB 2968 by West, HB 3419 by Fincher, HB 3545 by Townley, HB 4125 by Roberts, SB 655 by Thompson, HB 767 by McCortney and Echols, SB 1201 by McCortney, SB 1208 and SB 1679 by Bergstrom, SB 1709 by Pugh, and SB 1915 by David. Mr. Varghese also noted that the PT compact was "alive and well" in Oklahoma with lots of applications, and that the MD licensure compact was still incomplete.

**Board Committee reports:** There were no official board committee reports, but Ms. Shaw offered to investigate hosting a Blue Cirrus event, that we would need 30 attendees to make the event possible. It was determined to table that until the summer as people seemed busy during the spring.

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**Director's report:** Mr. Tim Davis noted that he had received a couple of inquiries asking if TAO was going to host another summit in 2020, and he had received a couple of questions regarding billing for telehealth.

**Educational Presentation:** The presentation was given by Dr. Waseem Ghannam, MD, MBA, MHSA, CEO and co-founder of TeleHealth Solutions, who provides telemedicine for critical access hospitals, LTAC's, SNF's, and senior living communities, as well as providing telepsychology. Dr. Ghannam described different scenarios where his providers were able to leverage technology to get into areas where traditional care had left gaps, such as post-acute care, and enable them to prevent getting sicker or returning to the ED. He mentioned CHF, pneumonia, sepsis, and UTI's as top drivers of readmissions, and their methods for helping to lower these numbers. He noted they have a presence in over 20 states, and average 3,300 calls per night. He also mentioned their focus on quality and patient satisfaction, and shared some of their results. It was an excellent presentation.

**Other Business:** No other business was discussed

**Meeting adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 10:54 a.m.

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

- March 10, 2020 On site: 101 NE 51st St, Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Minutes signed by Scott Bumgarner, Secretary

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Signature

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Date