

**MINUTES**  
**NATIONAL ATHLETIC TRAINERS' ASSOCIATION, INC.**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**August 31, 2004**  
**CHUCK KIMMEL, ATC, PRESIDING**

**ROLL CALL:** The following were present:

Chuck Kimmel, ATC	Paul Genender, Esq. <i>Legal Counsel</i>
Jeff Stone, MEd, ATC, LAT	Eve Becker-Doyle, CAE
Joe Iezzi, ATC	Teresa Foster Welch, CAE
Charles Rozanski, MEd, ATC	Cate Brennan Lisak
Marjorie Albohm, MS, ATC	Linda Tilley
Lynn Bott, MS, ATC	LaDonna Courtney, CAE
Sandy Miller, MS Ed, ATC	Karen Peterson
Matt Webber, MA, ATC	
Andy Paulin, ATC	
R.T. Floyd, EdD, ATC	
Barrie Steele, MS, ATL, ATC	

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Kimmel called the meeting to order at 12.01 pm CST.

**STATE LOBBYING EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT REQUEST**

NATA provides funds to states to reimburse expenses related to obtaining or amending state practice acts of athletic trainers. Currently NATA sends reimbursement checks to the district treasurer, who then forwards it to the state association. The states have asked for the checks come directly to them. Board members discussed various aspects of reimbursing states for their state lobbying expenses. President Kimmel reminded the board it was not discussing how to change the previously approved system in place; the issue was simplifying the distribution process so the check gets to the state association quicker. Staff will prepare a draft procedure for consideration during the September board conference call.

**CMS ISSUE**

In July the board discussed the proposal by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to limit providers of "incident to" therapy services to selected providers, not including athletic trainers. Since then, staff and volunteers have been contacting NATA members and external audiences to solicit support to defeat the proposal. At last count, between 150 and 200 members (that NATA is aware of) have submitted letters to CMS voicing opposition. A number of physicians have also joined the cause. Executive director Eve Becker-Doyle has developed a coalition of allied associations against the proposal.

Staff members Teresa Foster Welch and Cate Brennan Lisak, vice president Marje Albohm, BOC president Jeffrey Ryan and NATA lobbyist Bill Finerfrock are scheduled to meet with CMS Director, Herb Kuhn on September 17 to discuss the issue before comments are reviewed.

Staff and volunteers continue to meet weekly via conference call to review progress and adjust strategy as necessary. NATA members are encouraged to contact their senators or representatives to ask them to contact CMS about this issue. State district officers are urged to get involved by contacting their state medical associations.

### **JACK CRAMER MEMORIAL**

Jack Cramer, an honorary member of the NATA and son of one of the original Cramer brothers, died this month. The board considered a proposal to recognize his commitment to NATA and the athletic training profession.

**VOTED: TO ESTABLISH AN NATA FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP IN JACK CRAMER'S NAME BY DESIGNATING \$2,000 OF NATA'S \$25,000 ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE FOUNDATION FOR THIS PURPOSE. (5,8) PASSED 10-0-0**

The funds will be earmarked accordingly in the upcoming budget cycle.

### **NATA CAREER CENTER**

#### **Revenue update**

NATA has allocated \$3,770 each to the settings committees, the Foundation, the Career Assistance Committee and job development efforts. \$1,885 has been allocated to each district.

#### **Posting of jobs on other web sites**

A recent scan showed two districts and at least 14 state associations are posting full-time positions not also posted on the Career Center. President Kimmel asked the districts to support NATA's efforts by excluding non-Career Center jobs from their postings. It is preferred that state associations follow the same procedure; those that choose not to should not receive a portion of the district Career Center allocation.

District III handles this by its web site set up. Anyone who clicks on the employment link on the District III website goes directly to NATA's Career Center. NATA does not link to sites that post jobs not on the NATA Career Center. Staff has been asked to advise each director the status of job postings in their district and/or states.

### **MALE ADVOCACY NETWORK PROGRAM**

The Male Advocacy Network has requested NATA participate in a pilot program to connect secondary school certified athletic trainers with family planning centers via the development of a contact directory, to expand reproductive health education and services to school age youth. The board tabled discussion to allow time for staff to research the proposal further.

### **NATA MISSION STATEMENT REWRITE**

One of the concerns addressed at the Board of Certification's July conference on legislation was the use of the terms "physically active" and "physical activity", approved by the board in the late 90s. The Nomenclature Task Force also expressed concern about the use of these terms and in May recommended NATA consider updating its mission statement.

**VOTED: TO FORM A TASK FORCE TO EXAMINE NATA'S MISSION STATEMENT AND MAKE APPROPRIATE RECOMMENDATIONS AT THE DECEMBER 2004 BOARD MEETING. (6,5) PASSED 10-0-0**

District III director Charlie Rozanski will chair the task force. Vice President Marje Albohm, and District VII director Matt Webber will also serve. Assistant executive director Teresa Foster Welch will be the staff liaison to the task force. Following board approval, a revised mission statement will be presented to district meetings in 2005. If approved by the membership at large, a new mission statement could be in place as soon as August 2005.

**EDUCATIONAL DEGREE TASK FORCE STATUS**

The final nominations for the Educational Degree Task Force have been submitted for approval on the August board ballot. The Board of Certification liaison to the task force, Sara Brown, will participate as needed, but doesn't anticipate attending meetings. The task force will make its report to the NATA board in December 2005.

**INVESTMENT COUNSELOR STATUS**

**Current counselor**

Current counselor Phil Elam has resigned from NATA's investment firm, Morgan Keegan. NATA will retain the services of Morgan Keegan until its contract expires.

**Bidding process**

NATA will accept bids from prospective investment counselors until October 1. Following this date, staff will review the bids and come up with a short list. The top three candidates will present to the Finance Committee in Anaheim in December; a recommendation for appointment will be made at the December board meeting.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**VOTED: TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA.**

- a. ACCEPT ST LOUIS' BID FOR 2008 CONTINGENT UPON RECEIVING A COMPLETE AND ACCEPTABLE FORMAL BID
- b. SPRING BOARD MEETING DATES, MAY 13 & 14, 2005
- c. GRADUATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE CHAIR REQUEST TO DESIGNATE ERIC SAUERS AS GEC VICE CHAIR NOW, TO BECOME GEC CHAIR IN JUNE '05 WHEN DR KNIGHT TAKES OVER AS EDUCATION COUNCIL CHAIR
- d. CODE OF ETHICS REVIEW AND UPDATE
- e. APPROVAL TO SEND BOARD REPRESENTATIVE TO INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE'S NFL EUROPE CEU CONFERENCE IN GERMANY IF WARRANTED BY ATTENDANCE, WITH THE PROVISIO THAT THE COST WOULD BE ABSORBED BY THE CONFERENCE BUDGET.

**(7,4) PASSED 10-0-0**

**FLAGPOLE**

Following a request by President Kimmel and other NATA members, staff investigated options to display an NATA flag and the United States flag outside the NATA office.

**VOTED: TO APPROVE THE EXPENDITURE OF \$3,100 FROM THE CONTINGENCY FUND FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF A GROUND-INSTALLED FLAGPOLE, UNITED STATES FLAG, NATA LOGO FLAG, AND ELECTRICAL AND LIGHTING COSTS. (5,4 PASSED 10-0-0)**

It was suggested the flagpole could be dedicated to an individual or group. Please submit your ideas to President Kimmel.

**NATA NEWS PROFIT**

The NATA News is meeting its goal of making a profit. (March \$15,739, May \$8,023, June \$27,416, August \$1,065. Total: \$21,700.) The board acknowledges and commends the efforts of staff members Valerie Hunt, Russell Cook, Brian Hawkins and Larry Commons to achieve this result.

**GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS MANAGER**

President Kimmel welcomed LaDonna Courtney, NATA's new Governmental Affairs Manager. LaDonna was executive vice president of the Arizona Academy of Family Physicians for ten years. A registered lobbyist, she has extensive experience developing and implementing advocacy efforts and grassroots campaigns. LaDonna's background includes testifying at legislative hearings, managing volunteer efforts and creating a political action committee.

**ADJOURNMENT:** President Kimmel adjourned the meeting at 12.56 pm CST.