



**TSATA Mid-Winter BOD Meeting  
Austin: February 8, 2009**

**Presiding:** Cathy Supak, Chairperson

**Attending:** Ed Mizicko, Dan Fuller, Nancy Vanley, Bill Schneider, Mark Chisum, Mike Carroll, Lee Knox, Spanky Stephens, Josh Woodall

**Invited Guests:** Robert Ramos, Executive Secretary; David Anderson, Hilco Partners; Marissa Rathbone, TEA; Scott Galloway, PR Committee Chair, Dan O'Conner, Governmental Affairs Committee Chair; Dennis Hart, TEA Curriculum Committee Chair; Jeff Mann, Secondary Schools Committee Chair

**Call to Order by Cathy Supak @ 8:13 AM**

Chair Supak recognizes Robert Ramos for his work on the TSATA Policies and Procedures Manual.

**Minutes from 7/17/08:** Josh Woodall makes a motion to accept the minutes from the July 17, 2008 meeting, Bill Schneider seconds the motion, all in favor motion carries unanimously.

**E-mail votes:** Dan Fuller makes a motion to accept both e-mail votes as tabulated, Lee Knox seconds the motion, motion carries unanimously.

**Regional Reports:** Regional reports were submitted to each director by e-mail prior to the meeting.

- Josh had 2 questions from region 7; 1) what can the TSATA do to eliminate drug testing? And 2) Has the TSATA looked into the growing field of Kinesiotherapy, is this an area that AT's are loosing ground in the non-traditional setting?
- Drug testing is state legislation so the only way to eliminate this is by contacting legislatures.
- Spanky: No we are not loosing ground to Kinesiotherapists, they are more on the level of message therapists.
- Dan states that in the 15/16 years he has worked in the clinical setting he has never worked with a Kinesiotherapist and has not worked with any clinics who have had one on staff.

Chair Supak welcomes David Anderson from Hilco Partners.

**Legislative Update by David Anderson:**

- David states that there is not a lot to show for the legislative session so far, however, this is not unusual for the 1<sup>st</sup> month of a session.

- Andrea Sheridan, a strong supporter of the TSATA, resigned as policy advisor for the Lt. Governor, however, she so to take the same position with Speaker of the House Joe Straus.
- Finance issues will dominate this spring, everything that happens this session will be viewed through the lens of finance. Any bill with a fiscal note will have a very difficult time getting out of their committee of origin.
- SB433, Senator Corona's scope of practice bill for the PT's, hard to tell were it stands. This bill does not require a fiscal note which gives it a little better footing. However, it is a scope of practice bill which is tricky because what affects one group positively affects another group negatively.
  - Cathy asks David if the TMA would be against this bill.
  - David says that they believe so but have not had any conversations with any other group about this until they get direction from the BOD.
- David recommends that the TSATA not be in the lead of any position in regards to this legislation, rather be supportive of the group that is in the lead of the position that TSATA is supportive of.
  - Cathy asks David what he recommends be our discussion with legislators at Hit the Hill tomorrow in Austin.
  - David recommends that the TSATA focus on explaining the role of the AT in the big scheme of things first. Next, compliment them on what they accomplished last session. Bring up concerns about SB433 from the stand point of AT's abilities to work with athletes that have seen a PT rather than a physician initially due to our practice act stating that AT's work under the direction of a physician. Become a point of contact for them in regards to any piece of legislation that concerns medical issues.
- Cathy asks David if there is anyway that Steroid Testing is going away.
- David states that there is certainly a possibility of seeing a reduction in the scope of testing; probably someone will say this is money we don't need to spend in tough economic times.

### **TEA Update by Marissa Rathbone:**

- SB82: TEA received no comments during the 30 day public comment period when published on the Texas Register that ended on January 26<sup>th</sup>. It was adopted essentially as written and will be posted to the Texas Administrative Code within the next 30 days.
  - Mike asks who the compliance person is within the school district.
  - Marissa states that ultimately the superintendent's office or who ever they appoint.
  - Lee asks if the rule about team Dr.'s has been clarified.
  - Spanky states that team Dr.'s have to provide a copy of a current CPR card to meet the requirements.
  - Cathy volunteers the TSATA website and PR resources to get the word out about SB82.
  - Cathy asks Dennis Hart to create bullet points highlighting implementation and send to Marissa.
- Sports Medicine Innovative Course is approved through the 2010-2011 school year. The renewal process should begin in the spring of 2010; contact Phyllis Simpson 6 months ahead of time.

**Executive Director Report:** The Executive Directors report was submitted to each director by e-mail prior to the meeting.

- Spanky has been in contact with Lite Tabs in a sponsorship venture, we have renewed all other sponsors for another year. Monarch and Student Resources want to re-open a relationship with us.
- Muller has developed a plan to donate \$1 per case of Muller product purchased by athletic trainers in Texas to the TSATA scholarship fund. This is a pilot program for 1 year to determine how it works and will be revisited following 2009.
- Spanky has concerns about the cost of sponsoring 2 students going to iLead and would rather the BOD consider sponsoring students to attend TSATA BOD meetings instead.
  - Cathy suggests that the 2 students that attended iLead address the BOD at the summer meeting about what was gained by this trip.
  - Dan suggests inviting 4-6 students to a BOD meeting and sending 2 of them to iLead in the future.
  - Item tabled for discussion at the summer meeting.
- Spanky is concerned about the structure of committees. He states that they have not been effective.
  - Cathy states that we need energetic members to work on all our committees.
  - Question about abolishing the regional representation theory on committees was brought up and making committees at-large.
  - Cathy assigned Dan and Nancy to review each committee's structure and report on changes deemed necessary.

**Vice Chair Report by Dan Fuller:**

Dan notes that regions 1, 4, & 7 are up for election this year. The current directors from each of these regions have agreed to seek re-election. Dan advises each director to back up all information to their board USB drive for easy transition this summer if replaced on the BOD.

**Governmental Affairs Committee – Dan O’Conner:**

A Report was submitted to each director by e-mail prior to the meeting

- Hit the Hill is set for tomorrow. Leave behind folders will be given out with information about AT's and the TSATA to those with meetings scheduled.

**Website – Josh Woodall**

A report was submitted to each director by e-mail prior to the meeting.

- Josh has been in contact with DJ Gililand from SWATA about website design. The concern is that Chris Shaddock and Josh are not able to create some items such as a members only section, membership cards, etc. that are desired by the BOD. SWATA's web design costs in the neighborhood of \$65 per hour. This is something Josh is going to continue to look at for the future.

**Membership Committee Report – Dan Fuller:**

- 2005 membership was 1,176 at the end of the year, 2006 was 1,067, 2007 was 1,262, 2008 was 1,413.

- Steady growth over the last 2 years should be accredited to Dennis Hart and his group working with the Sports Medicine class and Mike Carroll working with the Academic All-State award.
- Currently we have 80 members who are state members only, not affiliated with NATA/SWATA.
- Dan recommends exploring ability to partner with the Advisory Board of Athletic Trainers in creating a study guide for the LAT exam and offer it to college students preparing for the test from the TSATA as a recruiting tool.
  - Cathy says to approach David Weir from the Advisory Board first to get approval.
- Dan states that we are looking at adding a membership directory to the website.
  - Cathy asks BOD if the TSATA wants to put a directory on the website available to members only using a password reset yearly in a read only format.
  - Josh notes that if we create a directory members need to be contacted to verify their desire to be on the list.
  - Cathy states that those who joined via NATA have already agreed to be published; we need to verify state only member's willingness.
- Nancy Vanley makes a motion that we begin a directory but only if each individual agrees to have their information published and this would be password protected, password changed annually and password will be provided via e-blast.
  - Ed seconds the motion
  - Discussion: Josh notes that the motion states we ask each individual, do we want to ask only TSATA only members?
  - Cathy agrees that we don't need to ask NATA members
  - Motion fails with a vote of 2-7 with Nancy and Ed voting in favor, all others apposed.
- Josh makes a motion to create a directory including all NATA/TSATA members who have agreed to have their information published and ask those individuals who are TSATA only members if they agree to have their information posted. Have the directory password protected with the password being changed annually for TSATA members.
  - Lee seconds the motion
  - Motion carries unanimously.
- Dan would like to add that members who renew their membership in the 12<sup>th</sup> month of the year have their active membership status moved to the next calendar year effective January 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - Cathy wants to table this for July
  - Mike says we need to look at NATA policy and copy that because the bulk of our membership comes from the NATA.
- Cathy suggests that the BOD examine policies on how we will make available to members membership information if requested outside of the directory.
  - Mike recommends that if a individual wants to get info out to a group of members they can submit said information to their regional rep to get to the board secretary for approval and release to the member/group of members.

## **Financial Report – Josh Woodall**

A report was submitted to each board member prior to the meeting.

- The account balance as of December 31, 2008 was \$29,298
- Current balance as of January 31, 2009 is \$122,500.48, of that \$6,604.64 is in the Gatekeeper fund.
- At the end of the 2008 fiscal year the association was \$37,615 over budget
  - Mike notes that we had to guess on what it would cost to put on the Sports Medicine courses, this accounts for a large amount of the overage.
  - Josh notes that another area of overage was the large increase in cost of travel and mileage.
- Executive Director's budget was over by approximately \$10,000, largely due to travel costs. BOD was over budget by approximately \$5,700, this includes \$439 for lanyards given out at SWATA, \$1,400 for co-hosting the welcome reception at SWATA and does not reflect a \$1,000 gift from SWATA to fund travel to Hit the Hill in DC. Awards was over budget by approximately \$500, this is because this was the 1<sup>st</sup> year we have given out awards to former BOD members, upcoming years will not cost as much. General Operations was over budget by approximately \$5,000 again largely because of travel costs.
- Josh provides a proposed budget of \$112,000 for fiscal year 2009.
- Josh reviewed with the BOD action items proposed by the Financial Committee and Treasurer action items provided in a written report given to each BOD member prior to the meeting.
  - Spanky, in reaction to Treasurer action item # I states that as the Executive Director he would hope that how he does things will be a little different than with BOD members who attend 2 meetings a year. Two things, when he took the job as ED the original BOD said (1) he would always room by himself, and (2) he will do what is right, it will be up to his discretion within the budget and the original board agreed. In his situation as ED the perception people have is different. He hopes that the decisions made by the original board will carry over.
  - Ed asks if we have ever paid over \$125 a night for a room.
  - Josh states that not very often but on a few occasions yes. We have paid approximately \$250 on one occasion and \$175 on another.
  - Ed notes that this is probably in cities were that is the normal rate
  - Josh notes this is the reason for the privilege to go over \$125 per night with prior approval.
  - Spanky asks who he would go to for approval.
  - Cathy states that he should simply justify any overages on his expense reports when he turns them in.
  - Spanky notes that he would like the Executive Director taken out of the list of people who are required to share a room in Treasurer action item #I.
- In reference to the suite at SWATA, Spanky agrees that the cost is high, but he states that the benefit is worth the cost.
  - Mike suggests a gathering off site instead similar to alumni parties.
  - Bill recommends keeping the suite because many people will not want to travel off site.

- Ed recommends staying at the conference hotel.
- Josh makes a motion to accept the 2008 financial report
  - Bill seconds the motion
  - Motion carries unanimously
- Josh makes a motion to approve the 2009 budget
  - Bill seconds the motion
  - Motion carries unanimously
- Josh makes a motion to add to the policies and procedures manual that the Executive Director will submit expense reports, reimbursement reports and deposits to the Treasurer at the same time as the accounting firm.
  - Mike seconds the motion
  - Motion passes unanimously.
- Josh makes a motion to accept number 4 on the financial committee action items list as stated
  - Bill seconds the motion
  - Motion passes unanimously.
- Bill makes a motion to accept number 5 on the financial committee action items list as stated.
  - Josh seconds the motion
  - Motion passes unanimously.
- Josh makes a motion to establish a maximum reimbursement rate of \$125 per night for lodging which can be approved to go over as long as there is explanation, to the extent possible BOD members, committee members and chairs, instructors, etc. will share rooms at conferences and meetings.
  - Mike seconds the motion
  - Motion passes unanimously.
- Bill makes a motion to accept Treasurer action item #II as stated
  - Lee seconds the motion
  - Motion passes unanimously.
- Josh makes a motion that we continue to have the suite at SWATA at Spanky's discretion.
  - Josh withdraws the motion
- Josh makes a motion that we invest \$20,000 into a 6 month CD at Guarantee Bank and re-evaluate the benefit of using an investment firm or continue using our bank for investments in July.
  - Mark seconds the motion
  - Motion passes unanimously.
- Josh notes that last February we discussed only writing checks twice a month to keep costs down. Through the year we have not held to this. He spoke with Colleen at Akin and she says it is possible to write checks twice a month and still have our bills paid on time. Josh asks the board if we want to enforce this policy or withdraw it.
  - Ed asks what it costs us to write checks.
  - Mike states that it is \$12.50 per quarter hour for our accounting firm to write checks.
  - Josh notes we spent approximately \$600 last year.
  - The BOD agrees to enforce the previously established policy.

### **Public Relations Committee – Scott Galloway:**

A report was submitted to each member prior to the meeting.

- PR Chari wishes to dissolve his committee structure and work with regional directors to produce a group of members.
- Cathy states that the BOD needs to know what dates PR wants newsletters done, and that Secondary Schools needs help creating a display board for conferences.
- Cathy tells Scott to contact each of the members of his committee to gage involvement. Also figure out who is or is not a member of the association currently. No action will be taken on restructuring the committee at this time.

### **TEA Curriculum Committee – Dennis Hart:**

A report was submitted to each member prior to the meeting.

- Spanky and Dennis would like to host a breakfast or similar event with Texas college/university AT's at NATA to present the concept of SM I&II being a graduation requirement for Athletic Training Students.
  - Josh makes a motion to accept this action item as stated by the TEA Curriculum Committee as stated.
    - Mike seconds the motion
    - Motion passes unanimously.

### **Secondary Schools Committee – Jeff Mann:**

A report was submitted to each member prior to the meeting.

- Cathy asks Jeff if the committee can come up with criteria so that a scholarship can be offered by June.
  - Jeff states that this is already done; he needs to know if the BOD wants to require that the recipient go into athletic training or only that they graduate from a high school athletic training program.
- Cathy asks if the BOD wants to give (1) \$500 or (2) \$250 scholarships.
  - Dan makes a motion that the scholarship funded by the TSATA be in the amount of \$500 or greater depending
  - Dan withdraws his motion
  - Josh makes a motion that the TSATA establish a scholarship in the amount of \$500 to be awarded to a secondary school student in Texas going into the field of athletic training and meets the criteria set by the Secondary Schools Committee.
    - Mike Seconds the motion
    - Motion passes unanimously.
- Cathy states that the NATA BOD has had a proposal to make it available for the 2010 dues cycle for states within a district to have the flexibility to charge a different amount for state dues collected by the NATA (Currently states in the same region must have the same state dues). Cathy has spoken with BJ Mack from AATA and they would like the flexibility to change dues rates from year to year. This proposal will cost the NATA \$30,000 in IT costs which will be passed down to the states at a rate of \$1.40 per member in the initial year and a charge of \$0.25 in any subsequent year if there is a dues change by the state. This will hit the TSATA a lot harder than the AATA because of the number of members.

- Cathy requests a hand vote of those in favor of the ability to have a separate dues structure than the AATA at a cost of \$1.40 per member the first year and \$0.25 per member in subsequent years if there is a dues change by the state.
  - The hand vote is 9-0 against the proposal
  - Cathy will contact Brian Conway with the TSATA's vote on this topic.

### **UIL Committee – Bill Schneider:**

A report was submitted to each member prior to the meeting.

- Health history form changed to add an affidavit to be signed by a school official stating that they reviewed the health history to determine if the student requires a new physical or not. The UIL has given a grace to those schools with left over forms, the old form may be used until they run out, when more are printed they should be the new version.
- Mike makes the UIL Committee Chair aware that the NATA has an Inter-Association Task Force that is developing wording that changes what exists about pre-season practices
  - Bill asks if this is the pre-season document that is similar to the NCAA's rules.
  - Mike states yes it is
  - Bill states that the MAC has discussed this before and all are aware it may come up at some point.
- Cathy asks about TASO Soccer officials requiring Dr.'s notes for braces, etc.
  - Bill states that there is no such rule
  - Cathy asks how AT's handle this situation state wide.
  - Bill states his is working on this concern with the UIL.

### **Membership Survey – Josh Woodall and Mark Chisum:**

Members discussed the results which were sent to each member prior to the meeting.

### **Action Items:**

- Cathy charges Nancy and Dan with reviewing the current committee structure for each committee and report back.
- Cathy sets date of 2/16/09 to e-mail information to PR for the newsletter.
- Bob Ramos states that some jobs need to be moved from Vice Chair to Executive Secretary in the Policies and Procedures manual.
  - Dan asks what needs to be moved.
  - Bob states that initially the BOD stated that elections would be handled by the Executive Secretary
  - Cathy suggests that Bob and her work on this via e-mail after she has had a chance to review.
- Cathy directs the BOD to review the P&P manual and suggest changes to Bob by 4/1/09.
- Cathy states that the next meeting will be at SWATA in July. All board officer positions will be up for election at that time.
- Cathy directs Josh to look into cost of a conference call because there are some things between meetings that can't be handled by e-mail.

- Mike states that TSATA will have an exhibit booth at both the boys and girls coaching schools this summer. Cathy will be speaking at the girls coaching school.
- Mike states that the Academic All-State Award was a great success again this year and is great PR for the TSATA.

**Committee on Reimbursement:**

A report was submitted to each member prior to the meeting, no member of the COR in attendance.

**Goals Check:**

- Member survey completed
- Membership was increased by 12.5%
- Secondary Schools Committee has been created
- Volunteer form on the website has not been completed

Lee makes a motion to adjourn

Mike seconds the motion

Motion passes unanimously.