

**Oklahoma Physician Manpower Training Commission  
Regular Commission Meeting  
October 14, 2021**

**MINUTES**

The Board of Oklahoma Physician Manpower Training Commission met for a regular commission meeting at 10:00 a.m., on Thursday, October 14, 2021, at the Nicholson Tower (at OUHSC), 1000 NE 13th St., Suite 5900, Conference Room B, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Notice of the meeting had been properly filed with the Secretary of State, and a copy of the notice and agenda was posted on Monday, October 11, 10:00 a.m., in prominent public view at PMTC, and on the Commission website, [www.pmtc.ok.gov](http://www.pmtc.ok.gov), in compliance with the Open Meeting Act.

**Commission Members Present**

Joe Leverett, MD  
Tim Newton, DO  
Jeff Lester, MD

Kevin Khoury  
Jonathan Bushman, DO  
Layne Subera, DO

**Commission Members Absent**

Shane Stidham, MD

**PMTC Staff Present**

Janie Thompson, Executive Director  
Aneesa Sharp  
Benita Jose-Mathew

Michelle Cecil  
Dana Morpew  
LeaAnn Williams

**Guests Present**

Whitney Herzog Scimeca, Assistant Attorney General – legal  
Elisa Crouse, MD, OU-COM  
Steve A. Crawford, MD, OU-COM  
DeLynn Fudge, TSET  
Allison LeBoeuf, OOA  
LeRoy Young, DO, OSU-CHS  
Matt Robison, OSMA  
Brian F. Wilson  
Patti Davis, OHA

Dr. Leverett, Chair, opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. by welcoming everyone to the Nicholson Tower (at OUHSC). Social distancing was observed. Dr. Leverett asked that we start with introductions.

Ms. Sharp gave proof of meeting notice, took roll call, and declared a quorum.

Dr. Leverett read the Mission Statement of Oklahoma Physician Manpower Training Commission and attendees introduced themselves.

## **1. Consideration and Vote to Approve/Disapprove Minutes of the August 12, 2021, Commission Meeting**

Dr. Leverett asked for any revisions or discussion of the August meeting minutes then called for a vote.

Dr. Bushman made the motion to approve the August 12, 2021, minutes as presented. Dr. Lester seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Dr. Leverett, Dr. Newton, Dr. Bushman, Dr. Khoury, Dr. Lester, and Dr. Subera. None were opposed.

## **2. Director's Report**

### *a) Share New Presentation Backdrop*

Ms. Thompson took a moment to welcome Dr. Crawford and Dr. Khoury back. She began by presenting an update on PMTC's fresh look including the new backdrop that the agency is able to take to conferences and events. She thanked TSET for their assistance with the backdrop. She shared that TSET has helped PMTC giving us some support towards administrative costs and promotional items for loan repayment.

### *b) New Website Highlights and Updated Promotional Materials*

Ms. Thompson presented our new website to everyone scrolling through to show the changes made, how to navigate certain areas, and great new features. PMTC Commission Members and PMTC Staff have pictures up on the website. She also shared our new conference handouts with everyone including our new pens and notepads.

### *c) FY23 Budget Projection*

Ms. Thompson provided information on the PMTC budget request for FY23. She is asking for 3.9% increase back to our budget from the 4% cut PMTC took fiscal year 2021 in the midst of COVID. She shared the percent of change within the programs showing a shift of money due to carryover. The request for the 3.9% was placed in the Physician Loan Repayment Program and the family medicine cost sharing.

Dr. Leverett asked if the University of Oklahoma has seen the numbers shared. Ms. Thompson informed him that the numbers were almost the same as last year. She mentioned that one noticeable change that will be seen is the OSU Medical Trust Tulsa will be receiving a noticeable increase with OSU Family Medicine Residency Tulsa showing zero due to an agreement made by the two parties.

Ms. Thompson went on to share more details on the items that can affect the budget and how it's allocated.

d) *Administrative Assistant/Board Clerk Position Audit Update*

Ms. Thompson informed everyone that Diane Mickelson is no longer with PMTC. She has moved on to another position, leaving an open Administrative Assistant Position. We have received applications and will be looking to fill the position as soon as possible.

e) *Audit Update*

Ms. Thompson shared that the Audit is complete. We should receive a report next week. The total contract of the audit was \$13,810. When the final invoice was sent it was noted that their time was greater than estimated it would take to research our statues. The actual estimated amount was \$1,080 over what the initial contract was for and they wrote that off. The total amount will be \$13,810. A report should be available by the December Commission Meeting.

The total statement of work on our website was \$14,004.65. We have a conference call scheduled to discuss the invoice because the invoice appears to exceed the initial estimate.

f) *Report on Recent and Upcoming Agency Activities*

Ms. Thompson shared our excitement to be able to get back to normal agency activities including conferences, in person presentations, etc. She mentioned that we attended the Oklahoma Rural Health Association Conference in person and the benefits of attending. She also shared that we would be going to Durant for a presentation to their residents and to visit with the new CEO and administration at AllianceHealth Durant.

Dr. Bushman had questions regarding the breakdown of the budget and the historical context behind it. He also asked about how the money is distributed and how much is distributed. Ms. Thompson explained more details on the collections process and the history behind our programs. She informed him that with the Physician Assistant Scholarship Program we have moved more towards Physician Assistant Loan Repayment unless they show a strong commitment to rural Oklahoma or background from a rural area. She went on to discuss the Resident Rural Scholarship with Dr. Bushman. Following up with a breakdown of the programs and how they tie into the projections. She finished with the Physician Loan Repayment and how the funds are paid out.

Dr. Bushman asked about appropriations and the context behind the history of the distributions. Ms. Thompson said she would be happy to set a time to sit down with him to explain everything that has happened including the history behind Residency funding.

Dr. Leverett took a moment to provide some history on when we received matching funds from the HealthCare Authority and matching funds of federal grant money before we lost the waiver. He would like to see this be discussed further at the December Commission Meeting. Ms. Thompson added that the statues provide more guidelines as to why funding

is done the way it is. She also mentioned more information about CMS and the gaps that PMTC fills in that funding.

Dr. Bushman shared the struggle he has noticed with trying to get funding for a residency in Enid, OK. Dr. Leverett commented that trying to understand this can be very confusing and very complex. He added that some of the cause can be the related to the statutes, previous funding sources, changes between programs, etc. He believes it's a good question and he would like for us look at it further at the December Commission Meeting to make sure each of the commissioners understands how the money is allocated. Ms. Thompson also mentioned that we may want to have a discussion on how PMTC can support increasing residency programs.

Dr. Leverett asked for any questions or comments regarding the Director's Report then called for a vote.

Dr. Lester made the motion to approve the Director's Report as presented. Dr. Newton seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Dr. Leverett, Dr. Newton, Dr. Bushman, Dr. Khoury, Dr. Lester, and Dr. Subera. None were opposed.

### **3. Consideration and Possible Action from Scholarship Loan Repayment Committee**

#### **a) Raegan (Magee) DeWilde**

Dr. Khoury brought the following repayment information from the Committee:

The Committee recommends an extension for Raegan (Magee) DeWilde to begin her obligated practice as a Rural PA until Monday, January 3, 2022.

The Committee further recommends; If practice has not begun by January 3, 2022, the payment plan for the \$29,000 in principal will be put in place with interest beginning on that date at 1% over prime. If Ms. DeWilde is able to establish a rural Oklahoma practice sometime after January 3, 2022, repayment will stop, and obligated practice will begin. If, at any time, Ms. DeWilde begins practicing but does not establish a rural Oklahoma practice, the full terms of her contract will be enforced to include the addition of liquidated damages of 50% for a metro Oklahoma practice or 100% liquidated damages for an out of state practice.

Dr. Lester seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Dr. Leverett, Dr. Newton, Dr. Bushman, Dr. Khoury, Dr. Lester, and Dr. Subera. None were opposed.

### **4. Consideration and Possible Action on Nursing Program**

Ms. Cecil presented information regarding the applicants who had applied for the Fall FY21 Nursing scholarships open period.

There were 19 LPN , 18 APN, 31 BSN, 4 MSN, 9 DNP for a total of 81 scholarships to be given.

Dr. Leverett asked how difficult it would be to put their hometowns on the handout for next time. Ms. Cecil said that she can provide that information in her next update at the next meeting.

Dr. Leverett asked for any questions or comments regarding the Nursing Program then called for a vote.

Dr. Newton made the motion to approve the Nursing Scholarship applicants as presented. Dr. Bushman seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Dr. Leverett, Dr. Newton, Dr. Bushman, Dr. Khoury, Dr. Lester, and Dr. Subera. None were opposed.

#### 5. Consideration and Possible Action Regarding Physician Assistant Scholarship

Ms. Sharp presented two applicants to the commission, Caitlin McAlister and Colton Perry. PMTC has been screening, specifically for scholarships for Physician Assistant students who have a commitment and a relationship with a facility in a rural area.

Dr. Khoury asked if we had more information on the areas Caitlin McAlister chose. Dr. Leverett shared information on the National Guard locations suggesting that the locations she listed are likely close to a National Guard station.

Dr. Leverett asked for any questions or comments regarding the PA Program applicants then called for a vote.

Dr. Newton made the motion to approve the Physician Assistant applicants as presented. Dr. Leverett seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Dr. Leverett, Dr. Newton, Dr. Bushman, Dr. Khoury, Dr. Lester, and Dr. Subera. None were opposed.

#### 6. Consideration and Possible Action on Physician Community Match Program

Ms. Sharp presented to the commission Lucas Toho, M.D.

Ms. Thompson added that Dr. Toho is a special applicant because he has applied hoping to also participant on the Physician Loan Repayment, it is also our hope that we are able to add General Surgery in our next legislative session. If General Surgery is approved then we would be looking to bridge this PCM Program into Physician Loan Repayment. Dr. Toho left the state for residency and this program is helping bring him back to Oklahoma which is what we want to be able to do.

Dr. Leverett mentioned that he understands the need for General Surgery in rural Oklahoma but ultimately, we must follow the statues. He said that in this is way, we are able to follow the statues with a possible bridge later, and fulfill a need then that's great.

Dr. Leverett asked for any questions or comments regarding the PCM Program then called for a vote.

Dr. Lester made the motion to approve the Physician Community Match applicant as presented. Dr. Newton seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Dr. Leverett, Dr. Newton, Dr. Khoury, Dr. Lester, and Dr. Subera. Abstained: Dr. Bushman.

## 7. Consideration and Possible Action Regarding Physician Loan Repayment Program

Ms. Williams presented information on six applicants for the Physician Loan Repayment Program.

- Catherine I. Chokuba, M.D. – FM – Durant – Choctaw Nation Regional Medical Clinic
- John M. Powers, D.O. – FM – Muskogee – Warren Clinic
- Eric D. Mathis, D.O. – FM – Henryetta – Utica Park
- Matthew T. Sims, D.O. – EM – McAlester – McAlester Regional Hospital
- Kaleb L. Vaughn, D.O. – IM/Peds – Pryor – Utica Park Clinic
- Kelsey J. LeMay, D.O. – OB/GYN – Ardmore – Mercy Clinic

Dr. Leverett asked if we changed the contract to reflect that the participant must live somewhere in the community and won't be able to live in a metro area. Ms. Thompson and Ms. Williams confirmed this change was made. Dr. Leverett thanked OSMA, BCBS, and TSET for supporting the program when the federal funds and the waiver was lost.

Ms. Thompson added details about the financial breakdown of the funding but also noted that it changes with different situations.

Dr. Leverett asked for any questions or comments regarding the Physician Loan Repayment Program then called for a vote.

Dr. Bushman made the motion to approve the Physician Loan Repayment applicants as presented. Dr. Khoury seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Dr. Leverett, Dr. Newton, Dr. Bushman, Dr. Khoury, Dr. Lester, and Dr. Subera. None were opposed.

## 8. Physician Placement Report

Ms. Sharp and Ms. Williams presented the Physician Placement Report and distributed charts and graphs detailing placed physicians and physician assistants in rural Oklahoma.

Dr. Leverett asked DeLynn Fudge with TSET about the partnership with PMTC and what it would look like to add additional slots for TSET sponsored Physician Loan Repayment Program. DeLynn suggested that Ms. Thompson reach out to Julie with TSET for more information on that process.

Ms. Thompson added that we prioritize primary care applicants and locations that have a greater need. She also mentioned how great the TSET and OHA team has been with helping support the physicians and physician assistants with their data.

Dr. Leverett asked for any questions or comments regarding the Physician Placement Report.

## 9. New Business

Ms. Thompson shared that we are looking for ways to replenish the funds from OSMA. Once the OSMA funds are used, they are gone for good. Dr. Leverett and Dr. Khoury have been looking at ways to replenish those funds possibly with a Gala.

Dr. Leverett mentioned that he and Dr. Khoury have met with others and that Dr. Khoury has several great ideas that they are exploring. Two ideas specifically, one being corporate or individual funding from nonprofits and similar organizations. The other being a Gala possibly partnering with OSMA.

Mr. Khoury spoke with Wes Glinsmann with OSMA and said that OSMA would be talking with their executive committee and Wes would give him a call with an update next week.

Ms. Thompson has been in touch with Maria Maule, AG, discussing how the sponsorship would work if we received funds from another source. She feels that Ms. Maule believes it's within our statutes but depending on Ms. Thompson's role she would have to reflect in her Ethics Report.

Dr. Leverett would like to add how we get our funding and what the longevity would be to the strategic meeting in December.

Dr. Newton thanked everyone for their work they do for PMTC. He shared that unfortunately he has a need to resign to do what's best for his family and that this would be his last meeting.

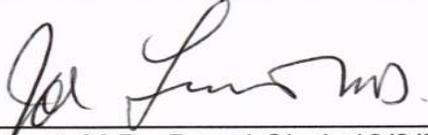
Dr. Leverett wished him the best and thanked him for his time and service to PMTC.

Dr. Leverett asked for any questions or comments regarding New Business and called for a vote to adjourn.

## 10. Discussion and Vote to Adjourn

<p>Dr. Lester made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Khoury seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Dr. Leverett, Dr. Newton, Dr. Bushman, Dr. Khoury, Dr. Lester, and Dr. Subera. None were opposed.</p>
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Dr. Lester made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Khoury seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Dr. Leverett, Dr. Newton, Dr. Bushman, Dr. Khoury, Dr. Lester, and Dr. Subera. None were opposed.



Joe Leverett, M.D., Board Chair 12/2/2021