

**Oklahoma Physician Manpower Training Commission  
Regular Commission Meeting  
August 12, 2021**

**MINUTES**

The Board of Oklahoma Physician Manpower Training Commission met for a regular commission meeting at 10:00 a.m., on Thursday, August 12, 2021, at the Oklahoma Hospital Association office, 4000 North Lincoln, 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 Friday, August 6, 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**

Tim Newton, DO  
Jeff Lester, MD  
Layne Subera, DO

Jonathan Bushman, DO  
Shane Stidham, MD

**Commission Members Absent**

Joe Leverett, MD

Kevin Khoury

**PMTC Staff Present**

Janie Thompson, Executive Director  
Aneesa Sharp  
Dana Morphew  
LeaAnn Williams

Michelle Cecil  
Diane Mickelson  
Benita Jose-Mathew

**Guests Present**

Maria Maule, Chief Assistant Attorney General – legal  
Richard M. Bryant, Jr, PhD, OU College of Medicine-Tulsa  
Lisa Crouse, OU-COM  
DeLynn Fudge, TSET  
Michael T. Leake, Oklahoma State Board of Osteopathic Examiners  
Allison LeBoeuf, OOA  
LeRoy Young, DO, OSU-CHS  
Brian R. Coleman, MD, OU Family Medicine Residency

Dr. Newton, Vice Chair, opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. by welcoming everyone to the Oklahoma Hospital Association office. Social distancing was observed.

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

Ms. Thompson stated Dr. Khoury was having a procedure that morning and to keep him in our thoughts and prayers.

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

Dr. Newton introduced the two new commission members: Jonathan Bushman, DO, and Layne Subera, DO. Drs. Bushman and Subera read the Oath of Office commissioning them as new PMTC board members.

**1. Consideration and Vote to Approve/Disapprove Minutes of the June 3, 2021, Commission Meeting**

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

Dr. Stidham made the motion to approve the June 3, 2021, minutes as presented. Dr. Lester seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Dr. Newton, Dr. Bushman, Dr. Lester, and Dr. Stidham. Dr. Subera abstained. None were opposed.

**2. Director's Report**

*a) Introduction of New Legal Counsel – Chief Assistant Attorney General Maria Maule*

Ms. Thompson introduced the new Assistant A/G that has been assigned to PMTC. They have met and discussed goals and have looked at rules and statues. They already have a great working relationship and she will be there to support the agency.

Ms. Maule stated she is excited to be working with PMTC and understands how important the work is that the Commission does. She promised to provide the best legal advice possible. Ms. Maule provided business cards to the Commissioners.

*b) Introduction OHA TSET/PMTC Support Team*

Due to a conflict, OHA staff was not at the meeting at the time of Ms. Thompson's report. Ms. Thompson stated OHA works closely with PMTC as a partner for Loan Repayment. Their team, Eric Taylor, Kelly Willingham, and Meagan Carter work with TSET, our hospitals, physicians, and physician assistants on Loan Repayment at this time. PMTC engages this team to help the physicians with tobacco cessation training, medical research, and making referrals. Anytime we have a physician asking for help, we always refer them to these individuals.

*c) Audit in Process*

Ms. Thompson stated PMTC is in the middle of an audit. We were advised of a cost between \$13,000 and \$14,000. So far, they have asked for clarification on a few things and it seems to be moving smoothly. A few questions were asked regarding items before my time as the director. They have not found anything major, and we are open to hearing what we can do better. The audit should be concluded by the time we have our next meeting.

*d) Meeting with OSMA Leadership*

The Commission has narrowed it down to a couple of options to increase our funds from outside sources. OSMA had pledged a set amount of money for loan repayment. Dr. Khoury and Dr. Leverett showed interest at the last meeting in holding a gala. We met

with OSMA leadership and they are very supportive. The idea is to replenish the funds they supply to us. As they expend those funds to support physicians on loan repayment, the money made at the gala would replenish those funds. Ms. Maule has already looked at it and there is one Ethic's rule we will need to address. We would need to report the funds to the Ethic's Commission and would work with OSMA's legal person. Typically, OSMA has their gala in April to welcome their new president and is not a fundraising event. PMTC's part will be filling tables. Ms. Thompson stated that she could see hospitals and partners wanting to be a part of this. Since neither PMTC nor OSMA have the available staff, we would need to go outside for someone to manage a gala.

*e) Family Medicine Program Updates*

Ms. Thompson went over the spreadsheet included in the commissioner's packet. Approximately \$5 million was given to the residency programs, specifically, to bridge the gap what GME does not pay for salaries and benefits. PMTC also had additional funds available in the budget, that allowed us to give additional funds for their educational and administrative expenses.

Ms. Thompson stated: our goal in pouring money into those residency programs, as defined in our strategic plan, is for the \$5 million to increase slots in the residency program that will lead directly to physicians in Oklahoma. In order to do that, we know that we have to keep our medical students trained here. Statistics show that our residents, tend to stay in Oklahoma, a resident tends to practice within a 100 mile radius of training.

*f) New Website – Commissioner's Photos*

The new website is being worked on and should launch next week. We will need a new photo of you and a short bio. The specs are noted in the packet insert. The new website will have better searching capabilities, especially for openings across the state. It is going to be interactive, and user friendly. Someone can search by a region in the State of Oklahoma. We are already looking ahead to Phase 2 of the website. Program applications can be filled out electronically and sent directly to us.

Brian Coleman asked about students that went to other schools besides OU and OSU.

Ms. Thompson added that it was a very important item to bring up. Some students go to medical school out of state or in the Caribbean, but we need to bring them back for residency.

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

### **3. Consideration and Possible Action Regarding the 2022 Commission Meeting Calendar**

The calendar dates were presented for 2022. All of the meetings are on the second Thursday of the month except for June and December, which are on the first Thursday. The first Thursday in June is the month when the commission members terms expire as well as the end of the fiscal year. The December meeting fell on the same day as the Governor's Health Taskforce Subcommittee. Dr. Bushman is on the OOA board which typically meets on the first Thursday of the month as well. PMTC and OOA will work together for the December scheduling.

Dr. Stidham made the motion to approve the 2022 Commission Meeting calendar. Dr. Lester seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Dr. Newton, Dr. Bushman, Dr. Lester, Dr. Stidham and Dr. Subera. None were opposed.

### **4. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the Committees for FY22**

Ms. Thompson stated certain people on the committees are ex-officio members by statute. At the last meeting she asked if anyone had a preference. Dr. Stidham had requested to be on the Nursing Committee. He is now the Chair of the Nursing Committee. Pam Spanbauer asked to remain on the committee after serving her term on the board. The Nursing Committee works hand and hand evaluating applicant merit, who receives a nursing scholarship, and who will fulfill the obligation they are taking on. Not having staff make the decision puts PMTC in a better position. Since students are being given more money, when there is a break in contract, this committee will be consulted.

Dr. Subera made the motion to approve the FY22 Committees, with the change of the Executive Director's name at OOA to Allison LeBoeuf. Dr. Bushman seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Dr. Newton, Dr. Bushman, Dr. Lester, Dr. Stidham and Dr. Subera. None were opposed.

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

#### **a. McKenzie Lloyd**

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

The Committee made the motion to approve McKenzie Lloyd to pay the full principal of \$21,000 plus 50% liquidated damages for a total of \$31,500 in our office by September 30, 2021. PMTC agrees to accept \$31,500 in full payment. If she does not make this payment by September 30, 2021, then Committee recommends the full principal of \$21,000 plus 100% liquidated damages for out-of-state practice equaling a total of \$42,000 plus interest of 1% over prime will begin on October 1, 2021. All payments must be concluded within 21 months.

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

**b. Dallas Clark**

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

The Committee recommends that Mr. Clark pay the full principal of \$24,000 plus 50% liquidated damages for a total of \$36,000 in our office by September 30, 2021. PMTC agrees to accept \$36,000 in full payment.

If he does not make this payment by September 30, 2021, then Committee recommends the full principal of \$24,000 plus 100% liquidated damages for out of state practice equaling a total of \$48,000 plus interest of 1% over prime will begin on October 1, 2021. All payments must be concluded within 24 months.

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

**c. Natalie Lindsey**

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

The Committee recommends continuing the extension for Natalie Lindsey to begin her obligated practice as a Rural PA until Monday, January 3, 2022.

The Committee feels they have gone beyond limits to allow for completion of the licensing process, but do not want to create a situation that might interfere with her immediate plan for licensing.

The Committee further recommends; If practice has not begun by January 3, 2022, the payment plan for the \$27,000 in principal will be put in place with interest beginning on that date of 1% over prime. If Ms. Lindsey is able to complete the license process and establishes a rural Oklahoma practice sometime after January 3, 2022, repayment will stop, and obligated practice will begin. If, at any time, Ms. Lindsey becomes licensed and 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. Stidham seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Dr. Newton, Dr. Bushman, Dr. Lester, Dr. Stidham and Dr. Subera. None were opposed.

Ms. Thompson provided an update brought to the Scholarship/Loan Repayment Committee for information. She stated the commission had added to the contract, even though it was in the spirit of the contract, it was not noted in the original contract that the participant had to reside in the community in which they were practicing. Our loan repayment contract is good for one year and must be renewed each year. It can be renewed up to a total of three times for a total of four years on that contract.

She continued, a particular physician, Rebekah Kriegsman, D.O., came up as one of those. Looking at the minutes from last commission meeting, it was clear that the commission did not want the staff to be handicapped, but able to make decisions based on what was the right thing to do at that moment. We brought her to the committee, in this particular case. This physician, and her husband purchased a home at the end of medical school, and at the onset of her residency. She is still in the same home, but she is commuting to Muskogee, so she appealed the renewal of her contract. The committee felt she has invested in an electric car, a charging station, and she has established a clinic practice where she practices every day. Dr. Kriegsman hoped the committee would extend the renewal.

Ms. Thompson continued, we feel like every situation needs to be looked at individually, and the committee needs to make a decision, and an addendum needs to be put on the contract that stipulates why the decision was made, and under what circumstances it would be ended. In this particular case we do not feel like it needs to be voted on because of Dr. Leverett's comment last time. If, for any reason, she moves from that residence, it must be to the rural area where she practices, if not, her contract will not be renewed.

## **6. Nursing Program Updates**

Ms. Michelle Cecil gave the following information:

### **❖ NEW PAYMENT METHOD**

- We are now paying nursing students by direct deposit at the end of each semester. They must provide verification of good standing, official transcript and enrollment for the next semester or registration for the NCLEX exam before payments are released.
- We are also now invoicing sponsors at the end of each individual semester in order to reduce holding or refunding funds for students that don't progress in the program.

### **❖ SPRING SEMESTER APPLICANTS**

- This year we accepted new applicants for the spring semester and you approved 7 students at our February meeting. We will continue to do this as long as funds are available to award new scholarships for the fiscal year.
- **BREAK DOWN OF SCHOLARSHIPS**
  - 11 LPNs
  - 11 ADNs
  - 35 BSNs
  - 8 MSNs
  - 6 DNP's
  - 4 PhDs

❖ **WARRANT INTERCEPT COLLECTIONS**

- This time of year, I always like to report on the funds that we are able to collect through the warrant intercept program with the Oklahoma Tax Commission.
  - Physicians - \$1,524.96
  - Nursing students - \$9,901.68
  - Total of \$11,426.64 in tax refund collections

❖ **NEW DEADLINE DATE**

- Since we have changed the format in which we pay the nursing students, we have changed our deadline date from June 30<sup>th</sup> to July 31<sup>st</sup>. I believe that this will accommodate those students that receive acceptance letters in July to be able to submit complete applications.

**7. Consideration and Possible Action regarding the Physician Assistant Scholarship Program**

Ms. Sharp presented to the commission Thomas Kamumo.

As there were no questions, Dr. Newton called for a vote.

Dr. Lester made the motion to approve the Physician Assistant applicant Thomas Kamumo. Dr. Stidham seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Dr. Newton, Dr. Bushman, Dr. Lester, Dr. Stidham and Dr. Subera. None were opposed.

**8. Consideration and Possible Action on Resident Rural Scholarship Program**

Ms. Sharp presented Blessings Olufowote, M.D., for the Resident Rural Scholarship.

Dr. Stidham asked about employment for her spouse. Ms. Sharp stated that Blessing's spouse is a teacher. She is interested in locating to Ada and Chickasha. Both locations have higher education institutions.

Dr. Stidham made the motion to approve applicant, Blessings Olufowote, M.D., for the Resident Rural Scholarship Program. Dr. Lester seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Dr. Newton, Dr. Bushman, Dr. Lester, Dr. Stidham and Dr. Subera. None were opposed.

**9. Consideration and Possible Action regarding Physician Loan Repayment Program**

Ms. Williams presented information on applicant Allissa M. White for Physician Loan Repayment Program. Dr. White is employed at Jackson County Memorial Hospital Clinic in Altus.

As there were no questions, Dr. Newton called for a vote.

Dr. Lester made the motion to approve applicant Allissa White for the Physician Loan Repayment Program. Dr. Stidham seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Dr. Newton, Dr. Bushman, Dr. Lester, Dr. Stidham and Dr. Subera. None were opposed.

#### 10. 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. Lester stated: sometimes we think that our urban colleagues are so far ahead of us in their knowledge and experience. What statistics do not tell is that the physicians who practice in rural areas, they are the nephrologist, the cardiologist, the internist, etc. that these people see. He stated he remembered being recalled into the Army for a war emergency. They sent all of the physicians from a large Army hospital to Saudi Arabia, including the pediatricians and obstetricians, and 26 family physicians. He thought, "Oh my goodness, I'll be overwhelmed when we get there." Only two-family physicians got full hospital privileges. Both were rural physicians--rural physicians who do everything! My first day there, I delivered over 20 babies, because the five obstetricians, were gone. I thought since then, we never need to apologize that we do everything. Even though we may not have all of the special tools they do in the urban areas. We have lots of experience!

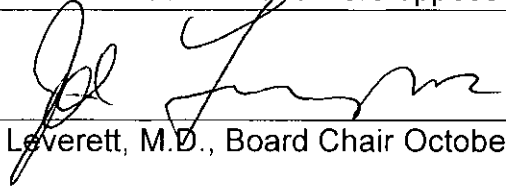
Ms. Thompson agreed that is why what we do is so important.

#### 11. New Business

Ms. Thompson reminded the attendees that PMTC staff is always available between meetings.

#### 12. Discussion and vote to Adjourn

Dr. Bushman made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Stidham seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Dr. Newton, Dr. Bushman, Dr. Lester, Dr. Stidham and Dr. Subera. None were opposed.

  
Dr. Joe Leverett, M.D., Board Chair October 14, 2021