# NATIONAL ATHLETIC TRAINERS' ASSOCIATION, INC. Board of Directors Meeting Minutes Carrollton, TX 8:00 a.m. Central Time January 26, 2025

Board

A.J. Duffy III, MS, ATC, PT, President Rob Marshall, ATC, Vice President

Scott Galloway, MBA, LAT, ATC, Secretary/Treasurer

Vicky Graham, DAT, LAT, ATC Tanya Dargusch, LAT, ATC Ray Davis, Jr., MSS, LAT, ATC

Scott Lawrance, DHSc, LAT, ATC, MSPT, CSCS

Valerie Herzog, EdD, LAT, ATC Cindy Clivio, MEd, ATC Donna Wesley, MS, LAT, ATC Kasee Hildenbrand, PhD, LAT, ATC Ryan Wilkinson, EdD, LAT, ATC <u>Staff</u>

Tamesha Logan, MBA, CAE

Drew Caffey Robin Grossfeld

Lori Marker, CMP, CEM

Dylan Orrell Cheryl Campbell Karly Foster Deanna Kuykendall

Katie Scott, MS, ATC, CAE

Kathy Stucker Jessica Porter

**Incoming Directors** 

Christina Emrich, MS, LAT, ATC

Rusty McKune, ATC

Guests

Trevor Bates, DHSc, AT, ATC, Co-Chair, DEIA Council Rebecca Lopez, PhD, ATC, CSCS, Co-Chair, DEIA Council

Lynne Young, MEd, LAT, ATC, BOC Liaison Gary Hanna, MS, LAT, ATC, CAATE Liaison

Ken Cameron, PhD, MPH, ATC, CSCS, President, NATA Foundation

Joe Greene, MS, ATC, TPRI

Michelle Odai, PhD, LAT, ATC, Incoming Chair, ECE

Rebecca Stearns, PhD, ATC, KSI

# **Topical Index**

Board Liaison Reports
BOC Update

Bylaws Update
CAATE Update
District Business

**Executive Council for Education Update** 

Government Affairs Update
Honors and Awards Update
Interim Executive Director Report
Korey Stringer Institute Update
NATA Foundation Report
President's Report

**Third-Party Reimbursement Update** 

# **CALL TO ORDER**

President Duffy called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m. Eleven of the eleven voting members were present. He noted that Director Graham will attend virtually. The requirements for a quorum were met.

# **OPENING REMARKS**

President Duffy welcomed the board, representatives of the AT Strategic Alliance and other guests.

#### **PRIDE POINTS**

President Duffy opened the floor for the Board and guests to share their recent highlights.

### **ANTITRUST GUIDELINES**

President Duffy referenced the antitrust statement provided to the Board prior to the meeting.

**VOTED:** TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE NATA ANTITRUST GUIDELINES.

(3,9) PASSED 11-0-0

# **BOARD OF CERTIFICATION (BOC) REPORT**

BOC Liaison Lynne Young reported that there are new officers for the BOC Board: Brian Conway is the president, Chris Ashton is the vice president, and Jeremy Marra is the treasurer. The Continuing Professional Certification Pathfinder Pilot has been completed; participants finished by taking a comprehensive final survey, and the staff is currently compiling and analyzing the pilot data. She also mentioned that the Athletic Trainer Compact Document Team is finalizing the language of the compact and plans to meet again in February. Once the language is finalized, it will be shared with the Technical Assistance Group (TAG) for their feedback, and then it will be opened for public comment. Lastly, she noted that there are several volunteer engagement opportunities available and encouraged directors to share this information with their districts.

# COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION OF ATHLETIC TRAINING EDUCATION (CAATE) REPORT

CAATE Liaison Gary Hanna reported that the Standards Committee has completed its five-year review. As part of this review, they sought public comments, with the open comment period closing on January 1. The search for a new executive director is ongoing, with hopes to fill the position by early spring. Additionally, the next Town Hall meeting is scheduled for March 1, and advance registration is required to attend.

# **NATA FOUNDATION REPORT**

Foundation President Cameron announced that the fundraising event in Orlando is set for June 24 at Top Golf. The application window for scholarships closed on January 15. Proposals for the 2024 Professional and Doctoral research grants will be accepted until February 15. Additionally, applications for the Student Writing Contest will be accepted until February 1.

# **EXECUTIVE COUNCIL FOR EDUCATION (ECE) UPDATE**

Michelle Odai, the chair, reported that it has been a full year since the restructure of the ECE was approved. Over the past six months, the ECE has focused on the transition period, which involves phasing out the committees and reorganizing the structure. She shared details about a couple of new projects the ECE is undertaking, including updating the Master Preceptor program and the Clinical Immersion database housed on GATHER. Additionally, the council is making progress on the next phase of the Secondary School Athletic Trainers' Committee's InvestigATe initiative, which is aimed at undergraduate students in collegiate settings. The ECE is also working on creating additional resources for the Educational Pathways infographic and updating the resources on the higher education webpage. She reported that the Meetings Panel successfully held the ATEC meeting in October and is currently awaiting feedback from that meeting. The Research Panel has identified two topics for educational research projects, and an open call for participation in these projects will be announced soon. The Engagement Panel has created new social media pages for the ECE to share information and gather feedback. They have updated the four educational awards that were included in the previous ECE structure and have developed an engagement plan for the year, which outlines monthly, quarterly, and yearly goals. She mentioned that due to strategic issues within the AT Lecture Series, the council has decided that this will be the final year.

# **HONORS AND AWARDS UPDATE**

Vice President Marshall reminded the Board that the Honors and Awards deadline was extended due to the severe weather in the fall. He said a special board meeting will need to be scheduled in early February for the approval of the Honors and Awards recommendations. He also pointed out that a communication plan will need to be adjusted.

President Duffy asked directors to be on the lookout for a doodle poll for February 3 and February 4.

#### THIRD-PARTY REIMBURSEMENT UPDATE

Joe Greene updated the board on the Third-Party Reimbursement Initiative (TPRI). He reviewed strategic activity and shared the 2025 strategic priorities, data, and manuscript statuses and goals.

## KOREY STRINGER INSTITUTE (KSI) UPDATE

Rebecca Stearns provided an update on Athletic Training Locations and Services (ATLAS), a partner program with NATA. She shared that National Center for Catastrophic Injury Research (NCCSIR) and ATLAS had a data merge and will be used to track AT employment, survey data, and social-economic factors. She then provided updates on recent publications, innovATe, and the Heat Safety and Performance Coalition.

## **GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS UPDATE**

Deanna Kuykendall, the Senior Government Affairs Manager, provided an overview of federal congressional and political issues and an update on NATAPAC fundraising efforts. She then requested that the Board reserve the dates on their calendars for a potential in-person "Hit the Hill Day" in Washington, D.C., scheduled for March 31 to April 1.

Logan informed the Board that today's discussion on strategic priorities would influence the discussion points that Kuykendall would present at the lobbyist meeting next week.

## **BOARD LIAISON REPORTS**

#### District 10

Director Hildenbrand reported that the *Athletic Training Education Journal (ATEJ)* is now rebranded as the *Journal of Athletic Training and Practice (JAT-EP)*. The Journals are looking to conduct an RFP for a new publishing house.

# District 11

Director Wilkinson reported that the Convention Program Committee (CPC) is actively developing content for the upcoming convention in Orlando. Additionally, plans are already underway for the content related to NATA 2026. The Council on Practice Advancement (COPA) is now chaired by Andy Carter, with assistance from staff liaison Nick Tolfree. Wilkinson noted that COPA will submit a few housekeeping proposals to the board this spring.

# District 1

Director Graham reported that the State Association Advisory Committee (SAAC) is collaborating with the Government Affairs Committee (GAC) to develop the State Leadership Forum. The SAAC also hosts quarterly town halls, which have proven to be beneficial for members. The LGBTQ+ Advisory Committee (LGBTQ+AC) is working to expand the Safe Space Module Series program, which is currently the highest-rated program on AT Educate. They held their first town hall in December and plan to host these events quarterly. The DEIA Council has a proposal that will be discussed in the closed session, and they are creating a DEIA infographic. She also mentioned her conversation with the Government Affairs department about making federal legislative efforts more transparent to members, which could enhance funding efforts for NATAPAC.

#### District 6

Director Galloway reported that DST has been working with membership on the renewals. The Historical Commission would like to travel to the NATA office to work on several incomplete projects.

# District 5

Director Marshall reported that the International Committee is working on member resources that focus on the perks of becoming an international member. The Honors and Awards Council is currently wrapping up the award season recommendations, which will be submitted to the Board in early February.

# Director 9

Director Wesley reported that ATs Care Committee is excited to bring back a training course at convention for its members. The Career Advancement Committee (CAC) is working on a white paper on pathways for career advancement in athletic training. The Secondary School Athletic Trainers' Committee (SSATC) plans to focus on Program Assessment for Safety in Sports resources. The committee continues to promote their white paper results at district and state meetings.

## District 4

Director Lawrance announced that the public comment period for the CAATE Standards is currently open. He encouraged directors to watch for an email containing details for review and feedback. Additionally, the Public Health Committee is seeking its inaugural chair. Once a chair is appointed, the next step will be to proceed with committee appointments. The goal is to officially launch the committee in June.

# District 8

Director Clivio reported that the Committee on Professional Ethics (COPE) is working to improve the efficiency and timeliness of processing filings through their review panel. The Connection and Engagement Committee (CEC) plans to meet next month to outline its activities for the year. The Ethnic Diversity Advisory Committee (EDAC) is currently planning its events for Orlando. She noted that the committee's award nomination period has just closed, with a total of thirty-eight nominations received for their five awards.

## District 3

Director Davis reported the Early Professionals Committee (EPC) is in the process of developing a toolkit and is looking for ways to collaborate with other committees to foster their growth. The committee is also in the process of finalizing its award process. He said that he had over thirty touch points in August with the Collaborate Program.

## District 7

Director Herzog reported the Professional Responsibility of Athletic Training (PRAT) is partnering with COPE to develop educational resources on the issues seen in athletic training. The committee submitted a presentation for the student symposium in Orlando to discuss legal pitfalls and ethical issues to avoid. The committee is also working on updating the language of the Athletic Training Oath to address the DEI language concerns. The Pronouncements Committee is working on updating and creating new position statements on asthma, dietary supplements, cervical spine injury management, and pediatric overuse injuries. The committee is also working on the best practices document on how to create a position statement.

# District 2

Director Dargusch reported that the Intercollegiate Council for Sports Medicine (ICSM) is conducting research on what attracts athletic trainers to the college setting; this effort is a collaboration with the Education Committee (EPC) and the Convention Advisory Committee (CAC). The council is also in the process of updating the College Value Model, referencing NATA's Standard of Care Toolkit. She mentioned that the council's next town hall meeting is scheduled for March. The Government Affairs Committee (GAC) is developing essential resources to examine all state practice acts. The committee plans to hold two breakout sessions during the State Leadership Forum and is also working on the Dave Campbell Award.

# **CLOSED SESSION**

The Board went into closed session at 10:30 a.m.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

Following a closed session, President Duffy adjourned the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

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Board

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Rob Marshall, ATC, Vice President
Scott Galloway, MBA, LAT, ATC, Secretary/Treasurer
Vicky Graham, DAT, LAT, ATC
Tanya Dargusch, LAT, ATC
Ray Davis, Jr., MSS, LAT, ATC
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Kathy Stucker Jessica Porter

**Incoming Directors** 

Christina Emrich, MS, LAT, ATC Rusty McKune, ATC

Guests

Trevor Bates, DHSc, AT, ATC, Co-Chair, DEIA Council-absent Rebecca Lopez, PhD, ATC, CSCS, Co-Chair, DEIA Council Ken Cameron, PhD, MPH, ATC, CSCS, President, NATA Foundation

# **CALL TO ORDER**

President Duffy called the meeting to order at 8:03 a.m. Eleven of the eleven voting members were present. He noted that Director Graham will attend virtually. The requirements for a quorum were met.

# **OPENING REMARKS**

President Duffy welcomed the board, representatives of the AT Strategic Alliance and other guests. He noted minor changes to the agenda.

#### **ANTITRUST GUIDELINES**

President Duffy referenced the antitrust statement provided to the board of directors prior to the meeting.

VOTED: TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE NATA ANTITRUST GUIDELINES.

(3,2) PASSED 11-0-0

#### **BYLAWS UPDATE**

President Duffy asked Directors Herzog and Dargusch to clarify the different motions presented for Section 8.2 regarding the President. He mentioned that several questions were raised during the presentation on Saturday.

Director Herzog reported that Section 8.2 has been divided into separate motions to reduce the risk of the entire section being rejected. Membership will have the opportunity to vote on all the motions presented. Motions that receive at least two-thirds of the membership vote will be sent back to the board for ratification. Motions that receive less than two-thirds of the membership vote will not be sent back for ratification.

It was suggested that all districts use the same voting ballot to ensure consistent communication across all districts.

Director Herzog stated that she would work on a voting sheet and send it to the board for feedback.

President Duffy informed the board that he plans to consult with Venable regarding the necessity of sending the vote back to the board after the membership has determined the outcome. This will not affect the current round of bylaw changes but may be relevant for future changes.

The board agreed that Directors Herzog and Dargusch would create a presentation recording that outlines the specific changes and post it on the NATA website.

# **CONSENT AGENDA**

Appropriate information on the following items was provided to the board through background materials, e-ballots or previous discussions.

# **VOTED:** TO APPROVE:

- MINUTES FROM THE DECEMBER 2024 BOARD WEB CONFERENCE (ALL)
- RATIFY THE E-BALLOT APPROVING THE OCTOBER 29 EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES.
- APPROVE KATIE SNIFFEN (D5) AS AT AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE AS CHAIR MEMBER EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.
- APPROVE TAMARA VALOVICH MCLEOD (D7) AS FELLOWS PANEL MEMBER EFFECTIVE JUNE 2025.
- APPROVE TOM BOWMAN (D3) AS FELLOWS PANEL MEMBER EFFECTIVE JUNE 2025.
- APPROVE KIM KEELEY (D2) AS EXECUTIVE COUNCIL FOR EDUCATION MEMBER EFFECTIVE JUNE 2025.
- APPROVE CYNTHIA WRIGHT (D10) AS EXECUTIVE COUNCIL FOR EDUCATION MEMBER EFFECTIVE JUNE 2025.

(5,11) PASSED 11-0-0

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Duffy provided an update on the projects he has been working on since the last meeting.

# **INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

Tamesha Logan presented the results of the staff transition survey to the board. The purpose of the survey was to identify communication gaps, issues related to workload and resources, and to gauge staff confidence in the association's future direction. She also provided updates on the assignments of staff liaisons and discussed Friday's session with all staff members. Additionally, she expressed her gratitude to the staff for their hard work in preparing for the Joint Committee Meeting.

Director Davis asked if department heads could provide a sentence on what each department does for members. He explained this would be a great tool to share when members ask what staff does for members.

# **DISTRICT BUSINESS**

## District 3

Director Davis reported that the district is working on updating their bylaws and strategic plan. The District 3 meeting is scheduled to be held in Virginia Beach from May 2-4.

## District 5

Vice President Marshall reported the district has a new secretary and the annual meeting will be held in La Vista, NE, March 14-16

#### District 8

Director Clivio announced the District 8 meeting will be held in Las Vegas, April 16-19.

#### District 10

Director Hildenbrand reported that Jen Ludwig will take the office of treasurer in June. The District 10 meeting will be held in Bellevue, WA, March 13-16. After the 2027 district meeting, the district and state meetings will be held every other year.

# District 11

Director Wilkinson reported the GLATA meeting is scheduled to be held in Wheeling, IL, from March 12-15, and requested directors to let him or Director Lawrance know if they plan to attend.

### District 4

Director Lawrence reported that the district will have a live vote on NATA Bylaws as well as District 4 bylaws. He pointed out the main change to the district bylaws is to expand the criteria for the district director.

#### District 2

Director Dargusch reported on a successful EATA meeting and noted several changes to the convention format.

# District 9

Director Wesley reported that SEATA is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> symposium in Atlanta, GA, February 6-8. The district will do a live vote at the meeting for changes to its constitution. The NATA Bylaws will also be presented but will have an electronic vote. The district is updating its bylaws to change the election timeline for the district director. Several states in the district are working on legislative activities.

# District 7

Director Herzog reported that District 7 meeting attendance is down significantly so they have been brainstorming ideas on how to better serve its members including hosting webinars and creating legislative grants. The district has also explored partnering the district meeting with other nearby districts.

#### District 6

Director Galloway reported District 6 has their mid-winter meeting coming up and they have several new leaders.

#### District 1

Director Graham reported District 1 had its one-year review of the strategic plan goals. She said she continues to have monthly meetups with her district to provide them with updates; the past meetup she discussed the NATA Bylaws changes.

# **OLD BUSINESS**

No old business.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

No new business.

# **CLOSED SESSION**

The board went into closed session at 8:56 a.m.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

Following a closed session and executive session, President Duffy adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

Submitted by:

Scott Galloway
Secretary/Treasurer

NATA Board of Directors