

# Alabama Board of Athletic Trainers

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## MINUTES

### Board Meeting

December 6, 2023

#### Members Present

Chris King, Board Chair

Ciara Taylor, Vice Chair

Lydia Thurston, Secretary (virtual 6:49 p.m.)

James Robinson, MD

Wes Richardson (virtual)

Robert Agee, MD (virtual)

Kyle Southall

Stephen Guthrie

Derick Bothwell

Eric Law, MD

#### Others Present

Keith Warren, Executive Director

Renee' Reames, recording secretary

Angela Warr, Executive Assistant

Daniel Lindsey, Advisory Council

R.T. Floyd, Advisory Council (virtual)

Karen Silas, Board of Medical Examiners

#### Members Absent

The Alabama Board of Athletic Trainers met on Wednesday, December 6, 2023 at the Board's office located at 2777 Zelda Road in Montgomery. Mr. Chris King, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m. Mr. Warren called the Board member roll and reported that a quorum of the members was present to conduct business.

The meeting was advertised on the Board's web site, [www.athletictrainers.alabama.gov](http://www.athletictrainers.alabama.gov), and the Secretary of State's website, [www.sos.alabama.gov](http://www.sos.alabama.gov), in accordance with the Alabama Open Meetings Act. Chairman King welcomed everyone attending the meeting.

ADOPTION OF MEETING AGENDA: Chairman King presented a copy of the agenda for the meeting.

MOTION: Mr. Richardson made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Robinson and, following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Chairman King reported that a copy of the minutes from the September 13, 2023, regular meeting was distributed to the members prior to the meeting for their review.

MOTION: Dr. Robinson made a motion to approve the September meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Southall and, following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT: Mr. Warren presented the Executive Director's Report (report available in the Board's official Book of Minutes).

**Financial Report:** Mr. Warren reported on the financial activities of the Board concluding FY 2023 that ended September 30, 2023, along with FY 2024 for the period ending November 30, 2024. He reported additional financial staff employed at Smith Warren and were working to catch-up on outstanding Board compensation and travel.

**MOTION:** Mr. Southall made a motion to accept the financial report as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Robinson and, following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Warren reported on the number of licensees (949) and presented a list of new licensees as of November 30, 2023, for licensure. Also provided was a list of licensees who had renewed their athletic trainer license.

**MOTION:** Mr. Southall made a motion to ratify the Executive Director's approval of applicants for licensure. The motion was seconded by Dr. Agee and, following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

**Website Updates and Renewal Process:** Mr. Warren reported that the renewal licensing process was underway, and IT was continuing to work on modifications to the Licensee Search function on the Board's website by adding an indication of Dry Needling and other practice protocol that the Board had approved related that a licensee.

He also reported that an audit by the Examiners of Public Accounts was underway and reminded the Board members to reply to the questionnaire letter they would be receiving from the auditors.

**Presentation to Dr. James Robinson:** Chairman King reported that Dr. Robinson's term on the Board was ending in December. He presented to Dr. Robinson a plaque in recognition of his service on the Board and other members joined Chairman King with their appreciation.

#### **LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT**

Mr. Warren reported that there was no report from the Board's legal counsel, who was not able to join the meeting.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

##### **Discussion of AT Incentive Grant Program (ACT 2023-341)**

Chairman King reported that the staff was obtaining census information and list of eligible schools for the Board to administer the new incentive grant for athletic trainers in rural, 1A, 2A, 3A and Title 1 secondary schools. He also indicated that he would continue to work in identifying more financial support for this grant program.

Dr. Agee left the meeting at 7:20 p.m. due to a scheduling conflict.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Database Services:** Mr. Warren introduced representatives from Kalm Services, a state vendor for database services and payment portal provider. The Board discussed the licensure technology available through Kalm Services and online application processes, which provided real-time data. The Board discussed changes in services and other options.

**MOTION:** Mr. Richardson made the motion to authorize the Executive Director to proceed with acquiring another database provider. The motion was seconded by Mr. Southall and, following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Warren reported that he would submit a quick quote for services and present for the Board's review and approval at a future meeting.

**Advisory Council (AC) Report**

**Approval of AC minutes from August 23, 2023 meeting:** Mr. Lindsey, Chairman of the AC, presented a copy of the August 23, 2023 AC meeting minutes (copy available in the official Book of Minutes).

**MOTION:** Mr. Southall made the motion to accept the August Advisory Council meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Dr. Robinson and, following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

**Intravenous Access and Intravenous Administration (IV) Protocol:** Mr. Lindsey presented a revision to the IV Protocol recommended by the AC (copy available in the official Book of Minutes).

**MOTION:** Mr. Southall made the motion to approve the revised IV Protocol as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Robinson and, following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

**Dry Needling Protocol:** Mr. Lindsey presented the new Dry Needling Protocol as recommended by the AC (copy available in the official Book of Minutes).

**MOTION:** Dr. Robinson made the motion to approve the Dry Needling Protocol as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Southall and, following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

**Dry Needling Application Requests:** Mr. Lindsey presented a list of athletic trainers who requested to perform Dry Needling. He reported that the AC had reviewed the attestations and certifications and recommended approval (list available in official Book of Minutes).

**MOTION:** Mr. Southall made the motion to approve the athletic trainers who had completed full-body certification in Dry Needling. The motion was seconded by Mr. Richardson and, following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

**Supervising Physician Request to Exceed Maximum Supervision Number of Athletic Trainers:** Mr. Daniel presented a request from Dr. Brett Bentley and Dr. George (Butch) Douthit, Jr., to supervise more than 15 athletic trainers, in accordance with Rule 140-X-8-.05. He reported that the AC had reviewed the requests and recommended approval (list available in the official Book of Minutes).

**MOTION:** Mr. Southall made the motion to approve the supervision requests by Dr. Bentley and Dr. Douthit, as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Robinson and, following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

**Public Hearing and Adoption of Final Rules:** Chairman King presented a copy of three (3) rules that was published in the *Administrative Monthly* for public comment. Mr. Warren reported that no comments were received from the public and no comments were presented at the meeting.

**Final Rule 140-X-4-.01 General Provisions**

**Final Rule 140-X-4-.03 Continuing Education**

**Final Rule 140-X-7-.03 Grant Application Procedures**

**MOTION:** Mr. Richardson made the motion to approve the three (3) Final Rules as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Robinson and, following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

**Annual Election of Board Officers:** Chairman King reported that annual election of Board officers was due.

**MOTION:** Mr. Richardson made the motion that the current Board officers remain the same, with Mr. King as Board Chair, Dr. Ciara Taylor as Board Vice Chair, and Dr. Lydia Thurston as Board Secretary. The motion was seconded by Dr. Robinson, and following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board. The current officers thanked the members for their support.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OTHER BUSINESS**

**ALATA Report of Activities – 2023 Grant Utilization:** Mr. Southall, ALATA President, reported that the Association had received two grant installments for the 2023 grant awarded by the Board and provided a written report on the Association’s budgeted funds spent to benefit the members (report available in the official Book of Minutes).

**ALATA Report – 2024 Grant Proposal:** Mr. Southall presented a written proposal of educational expenditures estimated in 2024 (report available in the official Book of Minutes) and requested \$50,000 toward the educational expenses. Included in the report was an increase in scholarships and an estimated increase in production costs, etc.

**MOTION:** Dr. Taylor made the motion to approve the request and award \$50,000 in educational grant funding to the Alabama Association of Athletic Trainers. The motion was seconded by Dr. Robinson, and following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board, with Mr. Southall abstaining from vote.

**Next Board Meeting:** Chairman King reported that the next meeting of the Board was scheduled February 28, 2024. The Board agreed to hold the meeting at the Board’s office in Montgomery beginning at 6:30 p.m. Other dates discussed were May 25<sup>th</sup>, September 10<sup>th</sup>, and December 4, 2024.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There was no other business to report, and Mr. Richardson made the motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Dr. Taylor and, following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board. Chairman King adjourned the meeting at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Chris King  
Board Chair



Keith E. Warren  
Executive Director

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Date Approved: February 28, 2024 / 