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**Minutes of the
Louisiana State Medical Society
Board of Governors Meeting – December 13, 2017**

Call to Order

Beau Clark, MD, President, called the meeting to order, on Wednesday, December 13, 2017 at 8:30 AM. Dr. Clark then led the board in reciting the Physician's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Verification of Quorum

Dr. Clark verified the presence of a quorum.

Approval of Minutes

After reviewing the minutes of September 13, 2017, the following motion was made:

**MOTION (APPROVED)
ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING
ON SEPTEMBER 13, 2017 AS PRESENTED.**

2019 House of Delegates – Selection of Location

Mrs. Watson informed the board that staff had put out a call for proposals and invitations to parish medical societies related to the location of the 2019 LSMS House of Delegates. The only response received was from the Calcasieu Parish Medical Society inviting us back to Lake Charles. Mrs. Watson informed the board members that the last HOD held in Lake Charles was in 2010 and was well attended. Without any additional discussion, the following motion was made:

**MOTION (APPROVED)
THE 2019 HOUSE OF DELEGATES WILL BE HELD IN LAKE
CHARLES, LA ON JANUARY 25TH AND 26TH AT A LOCATION TO BE
DETERMINED.**

Update on Orleans Parish Medical Society – Local Independence Issue(s)

Dr. Clark reminded everyone of the lengthy July 2017 letter from the Orleans Parish Medical Society (OPMS), which detailed several potential discrepancies and issues they identified related to the 2017 resolution on local independence. Dr. Clark then reminded everyone of the joint response to OPMS, which was from himself, Dr. Paul Perkowski, LSMS Speaker, Dr. Steen Trawick, LSMS Vice Speaker and Dr. Greg Sossaman, Chairman of the LSMS Committee on Charter and Bylaws. The joint response contained a line-by-line response to each issue raised by OPMS and in the end, concluded there was no merit to the issues raised by OPMS. Lastly, Dr. Clark reminded the board that at their September 13, 2017 meeting they passed a motion directing the president to send a letter to OPMS letting them know that from the board's perspective this issue is resolved. Dr. Clark let the board know the letter had been delivered.

Update on Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners

Mr. Williams informed the board that he and/or another executive member of the staff had attended the recent LSBME meetings since the last board meeting on September 13, 2017. At the LSBME meetings

1 they continued to move forward with new rules related to collaborative practice agreements,
2 telemedicine and medical marijuana. Mr. Williams provided the board members with a copy of each set
3 of new rules but did not go into any details on them as Dr. Christy Valentine, LSBME President would
4 be addressing the board later in the day and would provide more details and answer any questions. Mr.
5 Williams went on to explain the 2018 mandated opioid CME course was still on track to be finalized by
6 March 2018. Lastly, Mr. Williams informed the board that the Louisiana Legislative Auditor (LLA)
7 was in the initial phase of a full-blown financial, compliance and performance audit of the LSBME.
8 However, the audit was temporarily on hold pending a legal challenge by the LSBME regarding which
9 confidential LSBME records the LLA would be allowed to review.

10 11 **Update on LSMS/LAMMICO Opioid CME Course**

12 Following up on earlier comments during the LSBME update, Mr. Williams informed the board that the
13 jointly produced opioid CME program between the LSMS and LAMMICO was still on schedule but that
14 the cost was a little higher than originally anticipated. Mr. Williams reminded the board that they
15 approved a \$15,000 expenditure from the LSMS Educational and Research Foundation on September
16 13, 2017 for the CME course. Mr. Williams informed the board that the LSMS share of the total costs
17 actually ended up at \$18,500 and that he needed another \$3,500 to finalize our agreement with
18 LAMMICO. After a couple of questions, the following motion was made:

19 20 **MOTION (APPROVED)**

21 **AN ADDITIONAL \$3,500 CONTRIBUTION TO LAMMICO IN ORDER**
22 **TO PRODUCE A THREE HOUR CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION**
23 **COURSE ON OPIOID ADDICTION THAT MEETS THE 2018 STATE**
24 **MANDATED REQUIREMENTS FOR PRESCRIBERS.**

25
26 Dr. Jeff White, District 4 Councilor from Shreveport abstained from the vote due to potential conflict
27 because of his relationship with LAMMICO.

28
29 Lastly, Mr. Williams informed the board that the initial proposal from the LSMS and LAMMICO to
30 partner with the LSBME and make the Opioid CME course free to all physicians in the state had been
31 rejected because the LSBME felt such an agreement might subject them to a possible ethics violation.
32 Therefore, the LSBME is going to accept, review and certify any CME course that meets all of the
33 requirements as mandated by Louisiana law. To that end, Mr. Williams met with Dr. Thomas Grimstad,
34 LAMMICO President and they both agreed that given the LSBME's position on this issue that the
35 Opioid CME course being jointly produced and paid for by the LSMS and LAMMICO should only be
36 made available free of charge to LSMS and LAMMICO members. All other prescribers would have to
37 pay for the course and the revenue from those sales would be distributed back to both parties.
38 Therefore, Mr. Williams asked the executive committee on October 23, 2017 whether to continue
39 making the CME course free to all physicians if it was no longer the exclusive CME program or should
40 it be just for members. The executive committee voted 7-0 to make the LSMS/LAMMICO Opioid
41 CME program free to only LSMS members and LAMMICO insureds. After some questions, the
42 following motion was made:

43 44 **MOTION (APPROVED)**

45 **RATIFY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE VOTE/DECISION THAT THE**
46 **LSMS AND LAMMICO PRODUCED OPIOID CME COURSE BE MADE**
47 **AVAILABLE FREE OF CHARGE ONLY TO LSMS MEMBERS AND**
48 **LAMMICO INSURED.**

1 **Update on Patients Compensation Fund (PCF) Oversight Board**

2 Mr. Williams informed the board that there were not any new PCF activities to report on other than total
3 claims, both frequency and volume, continue to decline. Additionally, Mr. Williams let the board know
4 that their most recent nominee to Governor Edwards, Dr. Luis Alvarado has been formally appointed to
5 the PCF and attended his first board meeting in November. Lastly, Mr. Williams let the board know that
6 the other three LSMS seats on the PCF are all expiring in early 2018. All three LSMS members
7 currently sitting on the PCF Board are eligible for reappointment and would like to continue to serve.
8 However, LSMS Bylaws require open notice and interviews to all interested LSMS members.
9 Therefore, staff will send out an open call for interested nominees in early 2018 and the board will need
10 to conduct interviews at their March 7, 2018 meeting.

11
12 **Update on Louisiana Health Care Information Exchange**

13 Mr. Williams reviewed several items with the board related to the LSMS’ partnership with KaMMCO
14 Health Solutions to launch a physician-led health information exchange (HIE) in 2018. First, Mr.
15 Williams reviewed the initial press release announcing the partnership, as well as, the master services
16 agreement outlining the duties and responsibilities of the LSMS. Next, Mr. Williams notified the board
17 that the HIE steering committee would be meeting in a couple of weeks to review and make
18 recommendations on the operating policies and procedures for the HIE. Lastly, Mr. Williams brought
19 forward several naming options for the HIE that were developed between the LSMS and KaMMCO.
20 They included: eHealthSync of Louisiana, HealthSYNC of Louisiana, eHealthNetwork of Louisiana,
21 Health Align of Louisiana, Louisiana HealthNet and HELIX of Louisiana. After much discussion, the
22 potential names were narrowed down to HealthSYNC of Louisiana and eHealthNetwork of Louisiana.
23 After a vote of 10-6, the following motion was made:

24
25
26 **MOTION (APPROVED)**

27 **THE LSMS WILL NAME ITS SOON TO BE LAUNCHED HEALTH**
28 **INFORMATION EXCHANGE “HealthSYNC of Louisiana”.**

29
30
31 **2018 Recommendations from the LSMS Budget and Finance Committee**

32 Dr. Paddock on behalf of the LSMS Budget and Finance Committee made the following recommendations for 2018:

33
34 Recommendation 1

35 The LSMS FY2018 proposed budget be approved with estimated revenues of \$1,918,500 and projected
36 expenses of \$1,918,344, with net income over expenses totaling \$166.

37
38 Recommendation 2

39 Annual dues for FY2018 remain unchanged at:

40

41 Active Member	\$400
42 Service Member	\$200
43 Academic Member	\$400
44 Part-time Member	\$200
45 Affiliate Member	\$100
46 Resident Member	\$ 35
47 Medical Student Member	\$ 0
48 Dues Exempt Member	\$ 0

49
50 The non-deductible portion of dues for lobbying activities will be 25%.

1
2 Recommendation 3

3 Dues for first and second year in practice members will be set to 50% and 75% of full Active Member
4 dues respectively.

5
6 Recommendation 4

7 The LSMS Educational and Research Foundation FY2018 proposed budget be approved with estimated
8 revenues of \$106,375 and projected expenses of \$101,375, with net income over expenses totaling
9 \$5,000.

10
11 **Proposed Change to the LSMS Employee Vacation/Sick Time Policies**

12 Mr. Williams reviewed a current trend in the corporate world of converting employee vacation and sick
13 time to a single allotment known as “Paid Time Off” or PTO. Mr. Williams outlined multiple important
14 considerations, including financial and cultural, as well as practical issues. PTO works best in a culture
15 where personal responsibility and accountability are core values. In work groups that do not like to be
16 micro-managed and wish to be treated as adults, workers find PTO consistent with a high level of
17 personal responsibility. PTO allows employees to take time off as needed without the restrictions
18 imposed by traditional time-off policies. This approach gives employees a certain number of days that
19 are put in a leave “bank.” As employees make “withdrawals,” the leave bank diminishes. It eliminates
20 the problem of employees “calling in sick” for other reasons, such as ski days or to care for a sick child.
21 With PTO, employees can use their allotted days however they wish, without having to have specified
22 reasons. Mr. Williams then outlined the changes he would like to make to the current LSMS vacation
23 and sick policies, as well as, how he would convert current accrued balances to PTO. After several
24 questions, and some discussion the following motion was made:

25
26 **MOTION (APPROVED)**

27 **GIVE THE EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT THE AUTHORITY TO**
28 **MAKE DESIRED CHANGES TO THE CURRENT LSMS EMPLOYEE**
29 **HANDBOOK RELATED TO CONVERTING VACATION AND SICK**
30 **TIME BALANCES TO PAID TIME OFF.**

31
32 **Report on American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) Maintenance of Certification (MOC)**
33 **State Society Meeting**

34 On Monday, December 4, 2017 representatives from thirty state medical associations, including the
35 LSMS, arrived in Chicago at the headquarters of the American Society of Anesthesiologists for a
36 collaborative meeting with representatives from national specialty associations, national specialty boards
37 and representatives from the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS). The sole purpose of the
38 meeting was to discuss their current and future plans surrounding Maintenance of Certification (MOC),
39 which has been a contentious issue between physicians and certifying boards for a host of reasons and
40 many physicians have looked to their state medical societies to provide leadership in addressing their
41 concerns. That leadership role has primary been accessed via state-sponsored legislation that made it
42 crystal clear that licensure, credentialing, and hospital privileges should not be tied to MOC. The
43 ABMS views state specific anti MOC legislation as problematic and would like for it to stop.

44
45 Throughout the meeting, both national specialty and state medical societies were allowed to share their
46 issues, concerns, opinions, etc. on the topic. Afterwards, the group heard from several national specialty
47 boards, which included approximately 170 innovations that the medical boards are working on to
48 address continuous learning for physicians. Many of the innovations included input from various
49 outside stakeholders and focused on greater consistency amongst the medical boards. These,
50 innovations included alternatives to the high stakes exams with a focus on longitudinal learning for

1 physicians in their relevant practice areas. Many of the medical boards outlined current (or moving to)
2 learning modules that would be seamless for physicians and provide a gap analysis. Most medical
3 boards seemed to be moving away from the high stakes examination that has been the challenge of the
4 physicians. There was also discussion by some of the medical boards on reducing the fees collected
5 from physicians for the tests and the need to be more customer friendly. There seemed to be a
6 willingness to change with an emphasis on the fact that the original MOC process needed to be
7 modified. The medical boards also stated on several occasions their willingness to participate in
8 bidirectional communication going forward.

9
10 As the meeting wrapped up, the ABMS and its member boards issued the following statement of shared
11 purpose as a sign of their commitment to regaining physician's trust.

12
13
14 **“ABMS certifying boards and national medical specialty societies will collaborate to**
15 **resolve differences in the process of on-going certification and to fulfill the principles of**
16 **professional self-regulation, achieving appropriate standardization and assuring that on-**
17 **going certification is relevant to the practices of physicians without undue burden**

18
19 **Furthermore, the boards and societies, and their organizations (ABMS and CMSS), will**
20 **undertake necessary changes in a timely manner, and will commit to ongoing**
21 **communication with state medical associations to solicit their input”**

22
23 Additionally, Dr. Clark directed the board members to a report that highlighted what each individual
24 medical specialty board has completed or is working towards in an effort to make the MOC process
25 more efficient and cost effective for physicians. Afterwards there were several questions, the main one
26 being does the LSMS pursue state legislation addressed at MOC. After much discussion the following
27 motion was made:

28
29 **MOTION (APPROVED)**

30 **SUBMIT A RESOLUTION TO THE 2018 HOUSE OF DELEGATES**
31 **SEEKING LEGISLATION THAT WOULD ENSURE THAT PHYSICIAN**
32 **LICENSURE, HOSPITAL PRIVLEDGES, CREDENTIALING, ETC. ARE**
33 **NOT LINKED SOLEY TO MAINTENANCE OF CERTIFICATION.**

34
35 **Board Sponsored Resolutions to 2018 House of Delegates**

36 The board addressed two potential resolutions in addition to the MOC resolution. First, Dr. Clark
37 suggested the LSMS seek legislation that would remove the LSMS from the approval process of EMS
38 protocols when contact with a physician cannot be made. Dr. Clark stated this scenario rarely occurs
39 anymore and that when it does, local parish medical societies were much better equipped to address the
40 issue. It was also noted that the Louisiana Emergency Response Network (LERN) Board and their
41 regional boards may be able to serve in this capacity as well. After some questions and discussion, the
42 following motion was made:

43
44 **MOTION (APPROVED)**

45 **SUBMIT A RESOLUTION TO THE 2018 HOUSE OF DELEGATES**
46 **SEEKING LEGISLATION THAT WOULD REMOVE THE LSMS FROM**
47 **APPROVING EMS PROTOCOLS WHEN CONTACT WITH A**
48 **PHYSICIAN CANNOT BE ESTABLISHED.**

1 Additionally, the board revisited a concept from December 2016 where dues exempt members would be
2 transitioned to a grandfathered membership category and future retired members would have to pay
3 some level of dues assessment. After many questions, the following motion was made:

4
5 **MOTION (APPROVED)**

6 **DIRECT STAFF TO DRAFT A RESOLUTION TO REVISE HOW THE**
7 **LSMS MANAGES RETIRED/DUES EXEMPT MEMBERS FOR REVIEW**
8 **AT THE JANUARY 26, 2018 BOARD OF GOVERNERS MEETING FOR**
9 **POSSIBLE SUBMISSION AS A LATE RESOLUTION.**

10
11
12 **2018 Annual Meeting Awards**

13 The board was given nominees for the Alliance Flame of Excellence, Community Service,
14 Distinguished Layperson, and Hall of Fame and after some discussion and votes the following motions
15 were made:

16 **MOTION (APPROVED)**

17 **RESOLVED THAT THE 2017 LSMS ALLIANCE FLAME OF EXCELLENCE AWARD BE**
18 **PRESENTED TO MRS. MELBA GRIMM.**

19
20 **MOTION (APPROVED)**

21 **RESOLVED THAT THE 2017 LSMS COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD BE PRESENTED TO**
22 **DR. DONNA BREEN.**

23
24 **MOTION (APPROVED)**

25 **RESOLVED THAT DOLLEEN M. LICCIARDI AND F. DEAN GRIFFEN BE NOMINATED**
26 **FOR THE 2017 LSMS HALL OF FAME. FURTHERMORE, THE BOARD WANTED THE**
27 **SELECTION COMMITTEE (LSMS PAST PRESIDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE) TO**
28 **KNOW THAT BOTH CANDIDATES WERE VERY DESERVING OF THE AWARD AND**
29 **SHOULD RECEIVE IT.**

30
31 **Other Issues**

32 Dr. Perkowski asked the board, as well as, Mrs. Bailey if they were aware of a recent Pennsylvania legal
33 proceeding that ruled only a physician, not members of their medical staff, could obtain an informed
34 consent from a patient. After much discussion and questions, the following motion was made:

35
36 **MOTION (APPROVED)**

37 **DIRECT STAFF TO CONTACT THE LOUISIANA MEDICAL DISCLOSURE PANEL**
38 **AND/OR LSMS MEDICAL LEGAL INTERPROFESSIONAL COMMITTEE AND SEEK**
39 **THEIR OPINION ON HOW THE PENNSYLVANIA CASE MIGHT IMPACT LOUISIANA**
40 **PHYSICIANS.**

41
42 **Special Guest – Christy Valentine, MD, President of the Louisiana State Board of Medical**
43 **Examiners (LSBME)**

44 Dr. Valentine provided the board an overview of the LSBME's recent activities, which included new
45 rules for: collaborative practice agreements, telemedicine, and medical marijuana among others. Dr.
46 Valentine also discussed the LSBME's policies and procedures related to board investigations. At the
47 conclusion of her presentation, Dr. Valentine fielded questions and also agreed to address the House of
48 Delegates in January 2018 with a similar presentation.

1 **Reports of Officers**

2
3 **President**

4 Dr. Clark highlighted his recent activities as president, which included attending the Physicians’
5 Foundation Physician Leadership Academy at Brandeis University just outside of Boston. Additionally,
6 Dr. Clark traveled to Chicago for a meeting with ABMS representatives as previously discussed. Lastly,
7 Dr. Clark provided a brief overview of the November 2017 AMA Interim meeting of the House of
8 Delegates, which took place in Honolulu, HI. Dr. Clark attended as an alternate delegate for Louisiana.

9
10 **President-Elect**

11 Dr. Bankston also spoke about her experience at Brandeis University for the 2017 Physician Leadership
12 Academy. Additionally, Dr. Bankston provided everyone with the 2018 Board of Governors meeting
13 dates as follows: March 7, 2018, June 6, 2018, September 12, 2018 and December 12, 2018.

14
15 **Secretary Treasurer**

16 The October 31, 2018 financial statements for the LSMS and Perkins Properties were reviewed, noted
17 and filed. Perkins Properties had assets and liabilities totaling \$2,441,296; Net income year to date was
18 \$189,842. For the LSMS assets and liabilities totaled \$2,571,732; while net income year to date was
19 (\$273,162). Membership was down 223 members from September 2017 with most of those being
20 medical students.

21
22 **Speaker of the House**

23 Dr. Perkowski gave the board a general overview of the upcoming 2018 House of Delegates and
24 instructed everyone to visit the LSMS’ website for additional information.

25
26 **Chair, Council on Legislation**

27 Dr. Broussard informed the board that there was nothing new on the legislative horizon to report on for
28 this meeting.

29
30 **Other Reports**

31
32 **Board of Councilors**

33 The LSMS Board of Councilors met during lunch and discussed the on-going process to fully implement
34 local independence. There was much discussion related to the topic and ultimately the councilors made
35 one motion:

36
37 **MOTION (APPROVED)**

38 **THE LSMS EXTEND THE CURRENT DEADLINE of DECEMBER 31,**
39 **2017 TO JANUARY 26, 2018 FOR PARISH MEDICAL SOCIETIES TO**
40 **DECIDE AND/OR MEET THE CRITERIA TO BE A CHARTERED OR**
41 **AFFILIATED SOCIETY UNDER LOCAL INDEPENDENCE.**

42
43 **EVP Report**

44 Mr. Williams informed board members that the AMA had recently completed a physician economic
45 impact study for Louisiana and that the society was currently working with the Governor’s office to
46 issue a joint press release. The report and subsequent press release will be co-branded as from both the
47 AMA and the LSMS. Once the press release is finalized, the release, as well as, the full economic
48 impact study will be distributed to members.

1 **LAMPAC**

2 There was nothing of note to report for LAMPAC.

3
4 **LSMS Alliance**

5 Mrs. Sarah Kreutziger was unable to attend the meeting but submitted a written report which was noted
6 and filed.

7
8 **Physicians' Foundation**

9 Dr. Lawrence Braud, the LSMS representative on the Physicians Foundation provided a brief quarterly
10 overview of their recent activities, which included research, grantmaking, and physician leadership.

11
12 **Adjournment**

13 With no additional business to discuss, Dr. Clark adjourned the meeting at 3:10 PM.

14
15 **Attending:**

16 William "Beau" Clark, MD, President
17 Susan Bankston, MD, President-Elect
18 Luis Alvarado, MD, Immediate Past President
19 Paul Perkowski, MD, Speaker, House of Delegates
20 David Broussard, MD, Chair, Council on Legislation
21 Juan Gershanik, MD, First District Councilor
22 Robert McCord, MD, Second District Councilor
23 Frederick J. White, III, MD, Fourth District Councilor
24 Adrienne Williams, MD, Fifth District Alternate
25 Reece Newsome, MD, Sixth District Councilor
26 Brian Gamborg, MD, Seventh District Councilor
27 Lance Templeton, MD, Eighth District Councilor
28 Anthony Blalock, MD, Ninth District Councilor
29 Nicholas Viviano, MD, Tenth District Councilor
30 Trent James, MD, Senior Physician Section Member
31 Amberly Nunez, Young Physician Section Member
32 Ken Erhardt, MD, Resident and Fellow Member
33 Daniel Harper, Medical Student Member

34
35 **Absent:**

36 Richard Paddock, MD, Secretary-Treasurer
37 Steen Trawick, MD, Vice Speaker of the House
38 Robert Chugden, MD, Second District Alternate
39 Allen Vander, MD, Third District Councilor
40 Mark Hebert, MD, Third District Alternate
41 Ezekiel Wetzel, MD, Fifth District Councilor
42 David Fargason, MD, Sixth District Alternate
43 Yoko Broussard, MD, Seventh District Alternate
44 Rod Clark, MD, Ninth District Alternate
45 Jeremy Henderson, MD, Tenth District Alternate
46 Lynn Tucker, MD, Senior Physician Section Alternate
47 Alicia Kober, MD, Young Physician Section Alternate
48 Ryan Wisler, MD, Resident and Fellow Alternate
49 Alexis Rudd, Medical Student Alternate

1 **Guests Attending:**
2 Christy Valentine, MD, Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners
3 Larry Braud, MD, Physicians' Foundation
4

5 **Staff Attending:**
6 Jeff Williams, Executive Vice President & Chief Executive Officer
7 Jennifer Marusak, Vice President of Governmental Affairs
8 Lauren Bailey, Vice President of Legal Affairs & General Counsel
9 Terri Watson, Director of Member Services and Administration
10 Chris Lebouef, Senior Director of Communication
11 Sarah Edwards, Office and Events Manager
12
13
14

15 **Approved:** _____
16 **Richard Paddock, MD, Secretary-Treasurer**
17

18 **Date:** _____

