

TSATA Meeting Notes
July 18, 2018
SWATA: Arlington, Texas

I. The meeting was called to order by Billy Ray Laxton at 2pm.

Role Call: Region 1 present via phone, Regions 2, 4-9 in attendance, Region 3 absent

II. Special Guests: David Anderson (lobbyist) & Steven Bucokvich (sp?)

Mr. Anderson expressed that this next legislature may be a “do nothing legislature” where little policy change may come out of it due to several changes. First, there will be a significant change in leadership in one chamber (House), which will lead to a better balance between the two political parties in both the House and the Senate. Mr. Anderson felt confident that the state-wide incumbents would be re-elected. Lieutenant Governor Patrick will be back and will have support in the Senate committees to support deregulation of professions and occupations. The current Speaker of the House, Joe Strauss, will not be seeking re-election, and the new Speaker will be elected on the first day of the new session in January. The Speaker will pick who will chair the House committees, and Mr. Anderson is unsure of Rep. Price’s return as the chair of the Public Health committee. Mr. Anderson also stated that with the January legislative session, more progress will initially come from the Senate since their leadership team will be in place, while the House will elect Speaker of the House. Mr. Anderson did not think the House committees would be named until mid to late February as a result, and their first meetings would not be held until the beginning of March.

Mr. Anderson also stated that there is a faction within the House that is interested in deregulation of occupations and professions. Mr. Anderson stated he may need help from the board and the TSATA membership, especially those that are represented by one of the House members that may introduce this bill. Mr. Anderson stated that some members of the House may look to oppose Governor Abbott or Lieutenant Governor Patrick on some issues they believe make no sense for the state of Texas, which may lead to conflict causing the bills not to pass.

Lastly, Mr. Anderson stated that money would potentially be the final cause for the “do nothing legislature”. The new legislature will receive \$2.6B in additional funding to work with. However, much of these funds will be used to address Hurricane Harvey relief and recovery. Mr. Anderson felt that there may be opportunities for TSATA to bring forth policy issues, but should be cognizant of the monetary impact of these issues. Mr. Anderson also brought up the issue of increasing safety and security in K-12 schools, and the potential role of athletic trainers in helping with increasing safety, specifically in the realm of mental health and recognition of mental illness, based on the unique relationships between student athlete and athletic trainers. Mr. Anderson concluded by urging the TSATA Board to reach out to the new members of the legislature following the mid-term elections to introduce ourselves as a group and let them know who we are. He also praised the organization for the successful transfer of licensure regulation to TDLR.

When asked about individuals to be concerned about regarding deregulation, Mr. Anderson mentioned Senators Kelly Hancock, who is the chair of the business and commerce committee, and Pat Fallon as individuals who are pro-deregulation.

III. Executive Director's Report

Spanky stated that, in regards to Mr. Anderson's presentation, the key is in the senate to pass legislation. TSATA raised \$15K for Hurricane Harvey relief efforts. Scott Galloway & Tracy Random to speak on safety issues at AD association. Lastly, TSATA bought table at NATA foundation in New Orleans.

IV. Chair's Report

Time was yielded to the Vice Chair for his report.

V. Vice Chair's Report

John reported that elections went well. There was discussion about the membership roster and excel spreadsheet, with each region split by zip code. There was some discussion on how to make the roster easier to read and manage.

VI. Regional Reports

Region 1: Nothing to add to report

Region 2: Nothing to add to report. John did reiterate that they had a successful clinic even though numbers were down. Lastly, John praised the TDLR for awarding an honorary membership to a student athletic trainer that passed away.

Region 3:

Region 4: Nothing to add to report. Mark Gilbert introduced Ben Bowls as the new representative.

Region 5: Mike attended the National Hit the Hill day and some of the current legislation.

Discussed the FIT Act, which allocates Medicare/Medicaid funds to fund athletic health issues. This bill died in committee but still out there for discussion. HR3580 concussion act is still in committee. Senate Bill 808 sports med licensure clarity act out of committee without discussion and should be passed. This bill allows athletic trainers to practice in other states without issue. ETATS had their golf tournament in the beginning of June, and TSATA was a hole sponsor. In New Orleans, Mike attended the leadership forum and found that there are similar issues across the board in terms of EBPs and meeting attendance. Mike also reported on the SWATA Board Meeting. There were 3 CPR saves, and 3 high school student athletic trainers that saved lives. D6 is leading the nation for AT Cares. Continue to encourage members to get NPI number. ATLAS phase 1 has been completed, and phase 2 will require annual updates. SWATA has also asked for an increase in social media presence, especially on Twitter. The Texas Sports Hall of Fame is interested in housing SWATA Hall of Fame. Regional meetings are eligible for 3 \$500 grants from SWATA, on a first come basis with the application located on the SWATA website. Lastly, if TSATA wishes to continue to offer the matching grant for free SWATA registration, we have to request it by May 1st, and have to request it at the mid-winter meeting.

Region 6: Catherine thanked Spanky for the foundation table at NATA. Catherine discussed Bubba Wilson & AT Cares program, especially in conjunction with the Santa Fe incident. 2 Stop the Bleed sessions have been sent to region 6 in July.

Region 7: Billy Ray stated that Diane had resigned as the CTATS president following her husband's death. Billy Ray also introduced Jody Moore as the new region 7 representative. Lastly, Ronnie Browder was featured in the NATA news for his work with youth rodeo.

Region 8: Rodney spoke about Deena being present at NATA task force meeting and was hoping to resolve issues through legislative standpoint with SAFD. AAATA meeting had 450 students in attendance. Joe Martinez will be recognized at SWATA next year for his life saving efforts.

Region 9: Jeff reported that Corpus Christi area CBATS is trying to get up and running and obtain 504c status. Rio Grande Valley Association had 130 student athletic trainers at their workshop in May. SPATS was successful and had about 350 attendees. RGV Association awarded 2 \$1000 scholarships. Awards banquet was held for Hall of Fame: Dr. Kip Owen (1st non-AT award)

VII. Secretary-Treasurer's Report

Total assets in July 2018: \$298, 573.07.

Asset trend chart from January 2017 shows consistent growth, which is driven primarily through membership. Sports medicine course also generates funding. Grants are also an additional source of funding. The NATA matching grant raised \$1000 (low due to asking for donations to Hurricane Harvey relief prior to matching grant). Application is already in place to apply for next year's matching grant. Jeff stated we are in good financial condition to finish out the remainder of 2018 and going into the 2019 legislative session. Currently we have used 39% of the approved budget, compared to 32% last year at the same time. All committees look to be on or under budget. Jeff also asked for a PDF copy of W9 for sports medicine course.

VIII. Committee Reports

Website: Bucky reported that the TSATA website is running well. There was a minor issue with job site that has been resolved. The job site has been very active this summer, with over 100 jobs listed each day. The Jobs and sports medicine course pages are the most viewed. However, we need to utilize it more and focus on various stories, such as athletic trainers that have saved lives, highlights from regional meetings, and specialty games, such as the pink out games. Bucky also asked for more stories like above on the TSATA Facebook page. Lastly, for the new Hall of Honor, there will be a link off main TSATA page that will include pictures and biographies of the honorees.

PR: Tim reported seeing lots of spammers on the Facebook page, and reported 5 new adds per month. The Facebook page is being used as more of a blog/forum for questions right now. Twitter would be good addition, but need would need content. Repost Facebook rules, call for content, and reminder that job postings are to go to the TSATA website.

Secondary Schools: Melissa reported on the completion of phase 1 of ATLAS survey and reminded the board about scholarships and academic all-state honors. This is based on a numeric grade and are due in December. The applications for honors open in October. Regarding prior discussion regarding school safety, Melissa reported that both Leander and Round Rock ISDs have dropped their 3rd AT positions due to funding for school safety.

College Scholarships: Mike reported that there were only 11 applicants for the college scholarships (compared to 34 last year), and that 4 applications were omitted due to not following the stated criteria.

Governmental Affairs: Dennis and Randy reported that we need to be ready for next legislative session but may or may not have items in 2019. Government affairs committee will start up this fall, and reach out to board members for help that is regionalized to make the most impact with the senate and representative districts. Randy asked the board to think of ideas for matching grant. Randy also asked to think about dates for Hit the Hill day and urged every board member to attend. The official date will be set at Mid-Winter meeting and will coincide with Athletic Trainer Day in the Senate and House. TSATA will not apply for NATA funds until we are ready to pursue legislation (due July 31). NATA matching grant due Aug 31. Just a Buck needs to have more information with names attached to donations.

Sports Medicine Course: Dennis reported that all is well. Apply for SM 3 recert in the upcoming year. No current curriculum changes.

Licensure Task Force: Following the 2016 board presentation, a task force was developed to look at our practice act language. Developed task force (17 members) and will be wrapping up. The goal of the task force was to advocate to make apprenticeship stronger due to CAATE changes in 2022. The task force believes it is important to keep apprenticeship programs. Students enrolled in a 3-2 program will not be able to sit for their LAT, as they will not receive their bachelors degree until they graduate with their masters degree (they would start their masters degree during their junior year). Many universities will not pursue a masters level program for athletic training, and will push to keep the apprenticeship educational route. The task force will meet in October and finish language that would help practice act to make it less restrictive (moderately restrictive). Once the task force is complete, the next step will be to contact key people and to recruit people to do work in the political arena if there is a bill that needs to be taken to the legislature. Following the election, Dennis plans to meet with Rep. Price and Hal Talton to ask what they think about practice act. The goal is to build a coalition to help support us prior to putting forward a bill, as physical therapists, chiropractors and nurse practitioners all have a stake in what we do and what is in our practice act.

Educational work group section: recommend to create a college/university task force to develop & work on needs of apprenticeship program. The work group will also provide detailed

information on how better to prepare the students for the LAT exam as the exam has changed in the last few years.

TDLR: David reported that the committee was tasked with language to spell out competencies and domains of entry level knowledge for athletic training. TDLR is looking to trim language, and addition of competencies and domains was not warmly received. TDLR wants to work with a work group talking about language changes. The work group met in June and dropped apprenticeship coordinator, which was a recommendation of the task force, due to no statutory authority over that individual. The task force also dropped all detailed language and utilized more domains and 5 major topics as recommendations. TDLR's role is to protect public and feel like LAT exam is doing what it is supposed to in protecting the public, and are not concerned by low pass rates. TSATA should look at ways to improve public perception and ultimately raise test scores, and look into an annual meeting outside of SWATA as an educational workshop for apprenticeship programs. This workshop would include best practices and utilize good programs to help less successful programs. The workshop would also provide student AT guidance program to help candidates prepare for the exam, and should be given early in their program. There was an 81% pass rate for December practical, 87% practical pass rate in May. 28% overall pass rate due to not passing written exam. Since 2010, 44 different institutions have sent students for testing, however only 19 institutions have sent for testing since switch to TDLR. David reminded the board that all TDLR meetings are streamed online.

IX. New Business

New Business Item: Mike: Texas Girls Coaches Association Meeting: only group doing all-star games through their organization. Dawn Allen (Leander) needs assistance for medical coverage. Need 6 AT every July. Ideas: 6 regions that don't have Hall of Fame honoree needs someone goes to help, send info out from regional directors. Put info on Facebook/TSATA website to generate volunteers.

New Business: to form a college and university apprenticeship task force with TSATA sponsor and workshop.

Motion: Jeff

Second: John

Vote: all in favor, no opposition

New Business: Appointment of Billy Laxton as Chair of College and University Apprenticeship Task Force

New Business: Using funds to purchase a retirement gift for Mona

Vote: Moving deadline for HS all state nominations to Dec 1

Motion: Catherine

Second: John

Vote: all in favor, no opposition

X. Election of Board Officers

Nominations for Chair: John Overton, Rodney Murray
John Overton is new Chair

Nominations for Vice-Chair: Rodney Murray, Ben Bowles
Rodney Murray is new Vice-Chair

XI. Approval of any Budget Amendments

Mike Waters motions, Catherine Marr seconds.

All in favor of keeping our budget as is with no amendments: all in favor, no opposition

XII. Goals, Tasks & Assignments

TASK: PR (Tim Moore): Task to report Facebook rules, encourage fun posts, job posts to TSATA website first, and investigate Twitter account

TASK: Mike to get proposal from SWATA to get Hall of Fame information

TASK: To all members to submit information to Bucky on regional meetings, fun stories,

TASK: To all members to get all-state academic awards to Melissa by December 1

TASK: To all members to generate more ideas for matching grant

TASK: To all members to consider Hit the Hill dates

TASK: Spanky to place W9 form PDF on website, present for Mona

TASK: Spread the word on Texas Girls Coaches Association organization and their needs.

XIII. Meeting Adjourned at 5:39pm by John Overton.