

**NATIONAL ATHLETIC TRAINERS' ASSOCIATION, INC.**  
**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
**Irving, Texas**  
**12:45 p.m. CST January 25, 2015**

Directors

Jim Thornton, MA, ATC, CES  
Tim Weston, MEd, ATC  
Michael Goldenberg, MS, ATC  
Pat Aronson, PhD, ATC, PTA  
Tory Lindley, MS, ATC  
Eric McDonnell, MEd, ATC, LAT  
Kathy Dieringer, EdD, ATC, LAT  
Chris Mathewson, MS, ATC, CSCS  
Carolyn Peters, MA, ATC, CSCS  
MaryBeth Horodyski, EdD, ATC, LAT  
Cari Wood, ATC

Incoming Director

AJ Duffy, III, MS, ATC, PT, D2  
Mark Coberley, MS, ATC, LAT, D5

President-elect

Scott Sailor, EdD, ATC

Staff

David Saddler  
Rachael Oats, CAE  
Amy Callender  
Lori Marker, CMP, CEM  
Anita James, CMP  
Kathy Crelly  
Tamesha Logan  
Kelly Carlin  
Michael Anto, PHR  
Ruth Riggan

Guests

R.T. Floyd, EdD, ATC, President NATA Foundation  
Denise Fandel, CAE, Executive Director BOC  
Micki Cuppett, EdD, ATC, Executive Director CAATE  
Susan McGowen, PhD, ATC, EMT, President BOC  
Russ Richardson, EdD, ATC, Chair ECE  
Mark Laursen, MS, ATC, President CAATE

**Topical Index**

[2015 Board of Directors](#)

[2015 Convention](#)

[2015 Legislative Plan](#)

[2015 Regulatory Plan](#)

[2015-16 Capital Budget](#)

[2015-16 Operating Budget](#)

[American Heart Association](#)

[\(AHA\)/National Football  
League \(NFL\) Back-2-Sports  
Initiative](#)

[Board of Certification \(BOC\)](#)

[Collaborative Solutions for Safety  
in Sport \(CSSS\)](#)

[College/University Athletic](#)

[Trainers' Committee \(CUATC\)](#)

[Commission on Accreditation of](#)

[Athletic Training Education \(CAATE\)](#)

[Education Advancement Committee  
\(EAC\)](#)

[Executive Committee for Education  
\(ECE\)](#)

[Executive Director Report](#)

[Inter-Association Task Force for  
Appropriate Care of the Spine-  
Injured Athlete](#)

[Investment Policy Guidelines](#)

[Junior College Athletic Trainers'  
Subcommittee](#)

[Liaisons to External Organizations](#)

[Logo Licensing Policy](#)

[Membership Statistics](#)

[NATA Foundation](#)

[NATAPAC](#)

[National Football League \(NFL\)](#)

[Secondary School Initiative](#)

[Off-Convention Joint Committee  
Meeting](#)

[Official Statement on Proper  
Supervision of Secondary  
School Student Aides](#)

[Risk Management, Liability &  
Regulatory Toolkit](#)

[Third-Party Reimbursement Pilot  
Project](#)

[USA Football](#)

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Thornton called the meeting to order at 12:47 p.m. Ten of the ten voting members were present. The requirements for a quorum were met.

**OPENING REMARKS**

President Thornton congratulated the board and staff on a successful Joint Committee Meeting. He welcomed incoming directors Duffy and Coberley and the members of the AT strategic alliance to the meeting.

**ANTITRUST GUIDELINES**

David Saddler referenced the antitrust statement provided to the board of directors prior to the meeting.

**VOTED: TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE GUIDELINES IN THE NATA ANTITRUST STATEMENT.  
(9, 5) PASSED 10-0-0**

**ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

Saddler reported a total of \$5,000 in the contingency fund and \$8,000 in the board discretionary fund.

**2015 LEGISLATIVE PLAN**

Amy Callender reported on the government affairs department's accomplishments in 2014 and its objectives and initiatives for 2015. She reviewed the plan for reintroducing legislation in the new Congress and upcoming issues for staff to monitor. Callender encouraged the board to help by bringing member concerns to staff's attention and by disseminating information about NATA's legislative work. Saddler congratulated Callender on her success in leading the department.

**VOTED: TO ENDORSE THE 2015 LEGISLATIVE PLAN AS PRESENTED BY STAFF.  
(1, 2) PASSED 10-0-0**

**LIAISON REPORT**

Director Aronson presented the January liaison reports and encouraged the board to reach out to liaisons with specific comments or suggestions.

**NATA FOUNDATION**

R.T. Floyd, NATA Foundation President, thanked the board for NATA's continued support. He presented the 2014 financial report and noted the 2015 budget is in the black. He reported on efforts to increase the number of donors, the members of the Shoe Box Society and the NATA Foundation's presence at state and local meetings. He commented on the possibility of creating an e-book to house position statements, Building Blocks and other educational materials in a digital format. He noted that Kenneth Cameron, PhD, MPH, ATC, will join the NATA Foundation board of directors in June as an at-large director. President Thornton thanked him for the report and for his hard work.

**VOTED: TO ACCEPT THE NATA FOUNDATION'S 2014 FINANCIAL REPORT.  
(3, 6) PASSED 10-0-0**

**BOARD OF CERTIFICATION (BOC)**

Susan McGowen, BOC President, thanked the board for the opportunity to participate and stated that the Joint Committee Meeting was outstanding. She announced the upcoming BOC Regulatory Conference in July and noted the practice analysis would be published later this year.

Denise Fandel, BOC Executive Director, reported on discussions with the World Federation of Athletic Training and Therapy (WFATT) and investigation into developing certification programs for other countries. The BOC is currently working on an exam and next steps. It is also working on a mutual recognition agreement template to replicate the relationship with ARTI (Athletic Rehabilitation Therapists of Ireland) in other countries.

**COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION OF ATHLETIC TRAINING EDUCATION (CAATE)**

Mark Laursen, CAATE President, thanked the board for the opportunity to attend and dialogue with the committees. He announced that CAATE has been recognized by the Council of Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) and has joined CHEA's International Quality Assurance Group. CAATE continues to upgrade its electronic accreditation platform, and is developing a common application service for programs and residencies. He reviewed program statistics and noted that CAATE continues to monitor the schools that do not meet the pass rate standard.

Micki Cuppett, CAATE Executive Director, reported on the accreditation conference held in October and stated CAATE hopes for an equally successful meeting this year.

The board congratulated CAATE on the CHEA recognition. President Thornton thanked the strategic partners for their collaboration with NATA.

**USA FOOTBALL YOUTH FOOTBALL PRACTICE GUIDELINES**

President Thornton presented USA Football's Youth Football Practice Guidelines for endorsement by the board, noting that the group utilized NATA's heat acclimation guidelines and utilized experts in heat illness and concussions in their development. He stated that the College/University Athletic Trainers' Committee (CUATC) and Secondary School Athletic Trainers' Committee (SSATC) reviewed the guidelines and did not have any concerns.

**VOTED: TO ENDORSE USA FOOTBALL'S YOUTH FOOTBALL PRACTICE GUIDELINES.  
(4, 8) PASSED 10-0-0**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR EDUCATION (ECE)**

President Thornton commended Chair Richardson on his work with the Executive Committee for Education (ECE). Richardson expressed optimism for the work of the ECE and noted that of 15 initiatives listed in the *Future Directions in Athletic Training Education* document, 13 are completed or in progress. He reviewed progress on the ECE's transition to a district-based committee, workgroups investigating doctoral education and internship programs/positions and an educational terminology document. He updated the board on the professional degree workgroup, stating it is surveying program directors in ATP's that transitioned from undergraduate to masters, continuing to work with the healthcare economist and compiling NATA committee input and educational program demographic research. Richardson listed next steps, recognized NATA staff for their work and thanked the board for its support of the process and ECE's direction.

**EDUCATION ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE (EAC)**

Director Horodyski reviewed the proposal for the establishment of an Education Advancement Committee (EAC) to identify short-term and long-term educational research priorities, to advance evidence-based scholarship, and to continually assess best practices related to athletic training education in order to enhance clinical practice and patient care. R.T. Floyd, NATA Foundation President, stated that the workgroup had collaborated with the NATA Foundation board to ensure that the division of research responsibilities between the NATA Foundation and this committee is clear. Laursen and Fandel noted the BOC and CAATE are also investigating how to support educational research.

**VOTED: TO ESTABLISH THE EDUCATION ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE AS PROPOSED AS OF 4/1/15 AND ALLOCATE \$50,000 FROM THE NATA TO BE AWARDED BY THE NATA FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH GRANTS.  
(3, 9) PASSED 10-0-0**

**CLOSED SESSION**

The board went into closed session, after which it was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

**NATIONAL ATHLETIC TRAINERS' ASSOCIATION, INC.**  
**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
**Carrollton, Texas**  
**8:30 a.m. CST January 26, 2015**

Directors

Jim Thornton, MA, ATC, CES  
Tim Weston, MEd, ATC  
Michael Goldenberg, MS, ATC  
Pat Aronson, PhD, ATC, PTA  
Tory Lindley, MS, ATC  
Eric McDonnell, MEd, ATC, LAT  
Kathy Dieringer, EdD, ATC, LAT  
Chris Mathewson, MS, ATC, CSCS  
Carolyn Peters, MA, ATC, CSCS  
MaryBeth Horodyski, EdD, ATC, LAT  
Cari Wood, ATC

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Lori Marker, CMP, CEM  
Anita James, CMP  
Kathy Crelly  
Tamesha Logan  
Kelly Carlin  
Michael Anto, PHR  
Ruth Riggan  
Drew Caffey

Guests

R.T. Floyd, EdD, ATC, President NATA Foundation  
Denise Fandel, CAE, Executive Director BOC

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Thornton called the meeting to order at 8:41 a.m. Ten of the ten voting members were present. The requirements for a quorum were met.

**OPENING REMARKS**

President Thornton welcomed the board and staff and thanked them for a great dinner the previous evening. He asked the board for any suggested changes to the agenda or follow up discussion from items the previous day. There were no suggested changes or follow up discussion points.

**ANTITRUST GUIDELINES**

David Saddler referenced the antitrust statement provided to the board of directors prior to the meeting.

**VOTED: TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE GUIDELINES IN THE NATA ANTITRUST STATEMENT.  
(9, 5) PASSED 10-0-0**

**THIRD-PARTY REIMBURSEMENT PILOT PROJECT**

Callender reported that the third-party reimbursement pilot project is underway and off to a great start. She expects to report on its progress by May or June.

**NATAPAC REPORT**

Callender requested NATAPAC Board of Director appointees for Districts 5, 8 and 9. She provided a report of donations and distributions in 2014 and reviewed upcoming fundraising activities for 2015 and explained how NATAPAC determines which candidates to support. Callender noted that the NATAPAC breakfast at convention is the group's primary fundraising initiative and encouraged the board to help increase participation and to sponsor young professionals' attendance at the event.

### **MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS**

Kelly Carlin provided an update on membership renewal trends, noting that renewal rates are tracking slightly ahead of last year. She also reviewed the exit survey, completed by those who do not renew. Rachael Oats noted that the information presented is consistent with the BOC's findings about those who have let their certification lapse, and Fandel stated she would share the BOC's data with the board. Carlin also noted that retention of Career Starter Certified members is improving. President Thornton thanked Carlin for her work.

### **Q&A ABOUT THE OFFICIAL STATEMENT ON PROPER SUPERVISION OF SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENT AIDES**

Tamesha Logan presented a proposed update to the student aide statement Q&A. President Thornton worked on the changes with SSATC Chair Larry Cooper. The board discussed numerous issues about the document.

**VOTED: TO ACCEPT THE CHANGES AS PRESENTED, WITH THE REMOVAL OF HEAT PACK APPLICATION FROM THE LIST OF ALLOWED STUDENT AIDE ACTIVITIES.  
(9, 5) PASSED 8-2-0 (NO 7, 10)**

### **LOGO LICENSING POLICY**

Logan presented an update to the AT Logo Licensing Policy to modify the pricing tiers and make logo use free to members. Director Dieringer reported the Finance Committee had agreed the financial implications of the change are negligible.

**VOTED: TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO THE AT LOGO LICENSING POLICY.  
(6, 2) PASSED 10-0-0**

### **COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY ATHLETIC TRAINERS' COMMITTEE (CUATC)**

Director McDonnell stated the Junior College Athletic Trainers' Subcommittee is still getting organized and working to identify representatives for all 24 regions. He stated more information would be available later in the year.

He went on to report the CUATC plans to create a student aide statement using the secondary school version as a reference. It will be ready for board review in June.

Director McDonnell shared CUATC discussions about a possible subcommittee with representatives from the five NCAA super-conferences to help improve communication to CUATC and enable NATA to respond quickly to time-sensitive issues.

### **COLLABORATIVE SOLUTIONS FOR SAFETY IN SPORT (CSSS)**

Oats stated that representatives from 40 states plus DC have registered for the conference. The planning group is still working on sponsorships to offset the cost of the meeting. Staff is thrilled at the positive response to the meeting. Logan provided an update on the press briefing, to be held Thursday, March 26.

### **NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE (NFL) SECONDARY SCHOOL INITIATIVE**

Oats provided an update on the fifteen National Football League (NFL) teams participating in the secondary school initiative and on the structure of the different programs. She noted that most programs are structured for sustainability and for coverage of all sports.

### **INTER-ASSOCIATION TASK FORCE FOR APPROPRIATE CARE OF THE SPINE-INJURED ATHLETE**

Director Horodyski presented a report on the task force meeting and the discussions regarding equipment removal and spine boarding. She anticipates a draft of the document will be available in May. President Thornton commended Director Horodyski on her success managing the meeting. Director Goldenberg suggested the task force create educational materials for dissemination when the statement is published.

### **RISK MANAGEMENT, LIABILITY & REGULATORY TOOLKIT**

Riggan reported that a draft of the toolkit is almost complete and will be ready for review this spring. President Thornton noted he would be appointing a new board liaison to the workgroup.

**2015-16 OPERATING BUDGET**

Treasurer Dieringer presented the FY16 budget and commented on changes from last year. President Thornton commended staff for their diligence in budgeting and forecasting and Treasurer Dieringer for her work as Finance Committee Chair.

**VOTED: TO APPROVE THE FY2015-2016 BUDGET, WITH THE HOST COMMITTEE DINNER AMOUNT DECREASED TO \$10,000.  
(5, 2) PASSED 10-0-0**

**2015-16 CAPITAL BUDGET**

Treasurer Dieringer and David Saddler reviewed the capital budget, including funding for parking lot and foundation maintenance.

**VOTED: TO APPROVE THE FY2014-2015 CAPITAL BUDGET AS PRESENTED.  
(2, 1) PASSED 10-0-0**

**INVESTMENT POLICY GUIDELINES**

On the recommendation of the finance committee and investment firm, no changes to the investment policy were recommended.

Treasurer Dieringer thanked the Finance Committee and finance staff, particularly Kathy Crelly, for their hard work.

**JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING**

The board discussed potential improvements to the Joint Committee Meeting and how to ensure NATA's volunteers have the information and enthusiasm necessary to lead the membership. The board felt the chair and staff presentations were extremely valuable and should be shared with the general membership, but that length guidelines would be helpful in the future. Other suggestions were to enable volunteers from each district to meet for idea sharing and a group photo, and to give young professionals and students time to sit in on other committee meetings.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

Saddler provided an update on open staff positions and on the bylaws changes. He commented on how to improve and promote economic data and value tools to members. President Thornton thanked Saddler for his work on the association's behalf.

**2015 CONVENTION**

Lori Marker reported convention housing is down 7% compared to last year. Logan shared convention marketing efforts to-date and that further promotions are planned. She thanked the board for creating the district marketing videos.

**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 2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS WEB CONFERENCE (ALL).**
- **AMENDMENTS TO THE NATA DEFINED PENSION PLAN**
- **2013 TAX FORM 990 PER IRS REQUIREMENTS (CONFIDENTIAL)**
- **2013 TAX FORM 990T PER IRS REQUIREMENTS (CONFIDENTIAL)**

**(9, 10) PASSED 10-0-0**

## **DISTRICT DIRECTOR REPORTS**

### **District I**

Director Weston reported that District I had approved all three bylaws changes and that the EATA meeting was extremely successful.

### **District II**

Director Goldenberg stated that District II did approve two of the three bylaws changes. He indicated that the change in Article 7 was voted down and explained the reasons why.

### **District III**

Director Aronson reported on increased grants for the Safe Sports School award. She announced that Bob Casmus will be inducted into the DIII Hall of Fame at the district meeting in May.

### **District IV**

Director Lindley reported that the District IV Executive Committee has achieved 100% participation on NPI registration and NATAPAC and NATA Foundation donations. He announced the District IV meeting in March will offer 11 EBP CEUs.

### **District V**

Director McDonnell reported that District V is working on Safe Sports School grants and will have more to report in May.

### **District VI**

Director Dieringer shared that SWATA President David Gish recently passed away and she will serve as the temporary District VI president. She reported on District VI's successful 60th anniversary meeting and the NATA Foundation fundraiser.

### **District VII**

Director Mathewson announced the District VII meeting in April and reported that Bart Peterson will be inducted into the District VII Hall of Fame.

### **District VIII**

Director Peters reported on the first Safe Sports School Award for Hawaii and District VIII's new quarterly Excellence in Athletic Training Award. She noted the title protection act has been reintroduced in California.

### **District IX**

Director Horodyski invited the board to District IX's 40th anniversary meeting. She noted District IX has not finished voting on the bylaws changes.

### **District X**

Director Wood reported that ATs are now recognized by the Washington Department of Labor to treat injured workers. She announced Russ Richardson's induction into the District X Hall of Fame at the NWATA meeting in March.

*Director Aronson left the meeting.*

## **2015 REGULATORY PLAN**

Callender provided an overview of the 2015 regulatory plan, including specific strategies for increasing NATA's visibility and developing relationships with various state and federal regulatory organizations. The main goal is to provide a more aggressive, structured approach and to monitor and comment on more issues of relevance. The plan is confidential, but Callender will provide bullet points for communication to members.

**VOTED: TO ENDORSE THE 2015 REGULATORY PLAN.  
(9, 5) PASSED 9-0-0**

**AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION (AHA)/NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE (NFL) BACK-2-SPORTS INITIATIVE**

Logan presented a report on the Back-2-Sports program administered by the National Football League (NFL) and American Heart Association (AHA). AHA would like to create a curriculum for NATA to distribute to members and schools, and requested that NATA appoint a workgroup to comment on the content. A workgroup comprised of members from the Secondary School Athletic Trainers' Committee (SSATC) and Committee on Practice Advancement (COPA) has been established to review the initiative.

**INCOMING BOARD MEMBER SCOOP**

Directors-elect AJ Duffy, III, MS, ATC, PT, District II, and Mark Coberley, MS, ATC, AT, District V, gave brief presentations about themselves to the board.

**ADJOURNMENT**

After appropriate thank yous, President Thornton adjourned the meeting at 2:33 p.m.