CALL TO ORDER
President Sailor called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. Ten of the ten voting members were present. The requirements for a quorum were met.

OPENING REMARKS
President Sailor welcomed the board, representatives of the AT Strategic Alliance and other guests. He noted minor additions to the agenda.

ANTITRUST GUIDELINES
David Saddler referenced the antitrust statement provided to the board of directors prior to the meeting.
VOTED: TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE NATA ANTITRUST GUIDELINES.
(9, 1) PASSED 10-0-0

CLOSED SESSION
The board went into a closed session and returned to open session at 10:35 a.m.

CHINESE OLYMPIC COMMITTEE
Mark Gibson, MS, ATC, PT, and M. Sue Guyer, DPE, ATC, CSCS, brought a proposal to the board from the Chinese Olympic Committee to support the employment of 80-100 U.S. athletic trainers to work with Chinese athletes in preparation for the upcoming 2020 and 2022 Olympic Games. China is interested in establishing a national association of athletic training to oversee the potential development of a comprehensive curriculum and certification program for athletic trainers in the country. Gibson and Dyer reviewed the project’s requirements, benefits and timeline for the board. David Saddler recommended applicants have an NPI number to be considered for a position. The board discussed possible challenges for ATs working in China.

VOTED: WITH SUPPORT FROM NATA, TO GRANT PERMISSION TO DR. AIJIE LIU, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE CHINESE OLYMPIC COMMITTEE, TO SEEK THE EMPLOYMENT OF CERTIFIED ATHLETIC TRAINERS TO PROVIDE ATHLETIC TRAINING SERVICES FOR ITS OLYMPIC TEAMS.
(2, 1) PASSED 10-0-0

WORLD FEDERATION OF ATHLETIC TRAINING AND THERAPY (WFATT)
Glen Bergeron, PhD, CAT(C), president of the World Federation, updated the board on its efforts. Bergeron reviewed the World Federation’s mission and vision statements and shared its strategic goals. The World Federation is reviewing its governance structure and hopes to approve updated bylaws in June. Bergeron added that the Federation is working with Mueller as a sponsor and on developing a sustainable funding model that will allow the World Federation to be revenue neutral in the future.

Glen Bergeron left the meeting.

CLOSED SESSION
The board went into a closed session and returned to open session at 11:36 a.m.

ETHNIC DIVERSITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (EDAC) LEADERSHIP DIVERSITY REPORT
Kysha Harriell, PhD, ATC, LAT, EDAC chair, presented to the board a recent study to evaluate the representation of ethnically diverse ATs within NATA’s leadership positions. The board discussed obstacles and made recommendations to the committee. President Sailor thanked Harriell for her report.

COMMITTEE ON PRACTICE ADVANCEMENT (COPA)
Martin Matney, MBA, ATC, LAT, COPA chair, informed the board of the proposed reorganization of COPA. Currently the committee has seven workgroups, which act as committees due to ongoing projects. The committee is proposing to establish the Council on Practice Advancement with 10 subcommittees. Each subcommittee would have three members and the ability to add or subtract members as workload varies. The proposed Council will be comprised of 10 district representatives with six at large members. Only Council members will attend Joint Committee Meeting (JCM) and national meetings. Matney stated a proposal would be brought before the board for approval with a mission statement, an explanation and rationale for each subcommittee. Any financial implications will be explained at that time. COPA hopes to implement the change in June during convention.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS INC. (PCI)
Tamesha Logan introduced NATA’s new public relations (PR) firm to the board. Logan reviewed the division of responsibility between staff and the PR firm. Members of PCI in attendance were Leigh Wagner, Senior Vice President, Jonathan Briggs, Senior Vice President, Digital, Jennie Szink, Account Supervisor, Digital, and Rebecca Taylor, Senior Account Executive. PCI introduced themselves and gave a presentation on how they will represent NATA in the media and what they bring to the association. The board welcomed PCI attendees to the meeting.
COPE/PRAT INITIATIVE TO PROVIDE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES
Gretchen Schlabach, PhD, ATC, chair of the Professional Responsibility in Athletic Training (PRAT) Committee and Tim Neal, MS, ATC, CCISM, chair of the Committee on Professional Ethics (COPE) spoke to the board regarding steps to educate members on how to better report incidents of sexual abuse. In light of recent media reports of sexual misconduct in healthcare, the NATA board has received inquiries on this topic. Schlabach and Neal outlined ongoing efforts.

MEDCO/CRAMER
Mike Finke, MS, ATC, General Manager of Medco Sports Medicine, expressed his pleasure to meet with the board. Finke gave an overview of Medco’s parent company, Performance Health and updated the board on Cramer’s 100-anniversary celebration.

MARKETING UPDATE
Tamesha Logan stated the contract agreement with MultiView will not be renewed in June. The YGS Group now will be supporting NATA with media sales for NATA News, Range of Motion and the Sports Medicine Legal Digest. Range of Motion will be developed in-house, following the contract’s conclusion. MarCom recently completed a two-year evaluation of the website project and found that users are staying online longer and are more engaged than previously, which should help entice online advertisers.

The Youth Sports Safety Summit (YSSS), the Collaborative Solutions in Safety in Sport (CSSS) and other NATA youth sports meetings are being combined into one premier experience. The tentative meeting name is “Meeting of the Minds: Sports Performance & Youth Safety.” The objectives are to facilitate peer-to-peer learning, engagement and thought sharing. Logan reviewed next steps moving forward. After listening to the meeting goals, the board endorsed moving ahead with the project. Logan will bring a funding request to the board in the near future.

Denise Fandel, MBA, CAE, Executive Director of the Board of Certification (BOC) joined the meeting.

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS UPDATE
Amy Callender reported on legislative challenges advocacy organizations face in planning for 2018. She reviewed the 2018 legislative outlook for the U.S. Congress. The Sports Medicine Licensure Clarity Act was reintroduced in the House and passed by a unanimous vote. NATA staff is working to resolve any remaining issues on the bill in the Senate. Senator John Thune (R-SD) has committed to getting the bill passed in 2018.

Capitol Hill Day 2018 is scheduled for March 7. There are 65 registrants and 27 states represented currently. Registration ends January 31.

2017 donations to NATA PAC totaled $54,000, given by 1,850 donors. Texas raised the most money and district 6 contributed the most. Callender stated a new NATA PAC website would be launched soon.

Callender provided an overview of 2017 state legislative accomplishments and 2018 objectives and priorities in California, Arizona and Washington, D.C.

LIAISON TO EXTERNAL ORGANIZATIONS REPORT
Director Fitzpatrick presented the report on NATA liaisons to external organizations. He reviewed those with financial requests and suggested some associations report to committees rather than the board. Fitzpatrick stated he plans to work with staff on proposed recommendations to update the liaison program and will provide recommendations to the board.

JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING DEBRIEF AND BOARD LIAISON REPORTS
The board shared discussions from committee meetings held during JCM. Director Coberley stated the Intercollegiate Council on Sports Medicine (ICSM) is off to a good start. A 1.5-day pre-convention meeting will be held in June to discuss collegiate athletic issues. The cost is still undetermined. He stated the white paper from the NCAA Summit held last January has not been published. A conference call will be scheduled to determine the hold up. Director Flanagan stated the Student Leader
Committee (SLC) is surveying member needs. The Post Professional Education Committee (PPEC) is working with candidates for the doctorate in athletic training degree to gather information. Director Fitzpatrick said the Young Professionals Committee (YPC) is working with members on how to use the Go4Ellis app. Director Brunett reported the ATs Care Committee finished the mid-level instructor training and should have one training session in each district during 2018.

Carolyn Peters left the meeting and gave her proxy to Lyn Nakagawa, incoming district eight director.

BOARD OF CERTIFICATION (BOC) REPORT
President McKune shared BOC recertification data. He reported the top three reasons people give for leaving athletic trainer are due to a change in profession, no longer practicing and retiring. He reviewed the Maintenance of Competence (MOC) document. McKune stated his presidency concludes in December 2018.

COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION OF ATHLETIC TRAINING EDUCATION (CAATE) REPORT
Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE) President LesLee Taylor reported programs overall have increased six percent. The new professional standards will be distributed in March 2018 and go into effect in January 2020. NATA board directors have been provided with talking points to assist with member questions. Fall 2022 is the last time any program can admit undergraduate students. Taylor thanked NATA and all those involved in the standards approval process.

ADJOURNMENT
President Sailor adjourned the meeting at 5:10 p.m.
CALL TO ORDER
President Sailor called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Ten of the ten voting members were present. President Sailor acknowledged the proxy vote of Lyn Nakagawa for Carolyn Peters (D8). The requirements for a quorum were met.

OPENING REMARKS
President Sailor welcomed the board and guests to the NATA office. He noted that Knowledge Initiatives would not give an update today.

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

   VOTED: TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE NATA ANTITRUST GUIDELINES.
   (2, 9) PASSED 10-0-0

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR EDUCATION (ECE)
Executive Committee for Education (ECE) Chair MaryBeth Horodyski, EdD, LAT, ATC, FNATA, provided an update on current ECE projects. The ECE reviewed the Educational Pathways document in its meeting and recommended approval by the board of directors. The BOC and CAATE participated in the creation of Educational Pathways and will take it to their boards for approval in February. Once approved by the boards of the AT Strategic Alliance, the document will be published.

   VOTED: TO APPROVE THE EDUCATIONAL PATHWAYS DOCUMENT PUT FORTH BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR EDUCATION (ECE), PENDING APPROVAL BY THE BOARD OF CERTIFICATION, INC. (BOC) AND THE COMMISSION ON ATHLETIC TRAINING IN ACCREDITATION (CAATE), AND THE NATA FOUNDATION (3, 5) PASSED 10-0-0

Board of Athletic Training Specialties (BATS)
Michael Hudson, PhD, LAT, ATC, reported to the board on the Board of Athletic Training Specialties (BATS). He stated BATS is drafting its Policies & Procedures Manual. It currently functions as a workgroup more than a board while in the startup process.

President Sailor thanked Horodyski and Hudson for their hard work.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**NATA Fiscal Year (FY) Audit Report**

Neely Duncan and Ryan Parish, Lane Gorman Trubitt, reviewed the audit of the fiscal year 2016-2017. They reported the audit went well and no formal report was issued for this period. Duncan and Parish commented on NATA’s capitalization policy and stated NATA is well above benchmarks in every category.

VOTED: TO APPROVE THE FISCAL YEAR 2016-17 AUDIT REPORT.  
(2, 10) PASSED 10-0-0

Duncan and Parish left the meeting.

**NATA Investment Performance**

Treasurer Weston welcomed Len Mitchell, CFA, Meritage Portfolio Management. Mitchell thanked the board for the chance to present. He reviewed the performance of NATA’s portfolio over the last five years, Meritage’s perspective and decision factors, and current trends affecting investment strategy. Mitchell did not recommend a change in strategy.

**November 2017 Financial Statements**

Treasurer Weston shared that year-to-date revenue and expenses continue to run slightly under budget. He stated that December financial statements would be distributed shortly.

**Iota Tau Alpha Funding Request**

Katie Scott presented information on a networking event request during the upcoming NATA Convention. There are approximately 1,000 members of the athletic training honor society. In a recent survey, it was determined that alumni and student members thought a networking event connecting the two groups would be of benefit. The proposal is for the group to participate in the EDAC service project in addition to a networking event. The event is capped at 100 people this year. Scott anticipates growth as awareness of the event grows. Success will be evaluated on registration numbers and a post-convention satisfaction survey. Treasurer Weston requested this item not be included in future budgets until a report is provided on first-year participation.

VOTED: PER THE FINANCE COMMITTEE’S REVIEW, TO APPROVE FUNDING UP TO $14,850 FOR THE IOTA TAU ALPHA NETWORKING EVENT FROM FISCAL YEAR SAVINGS OR BOARD DESIGNATED FUNDS IN FY 2017-2018 AND TO SUBMIT SEPARATE FUNDING REQUESTS FOR FUTURE YEARS.  
(6,10) PASSED 10-0-0

**American Red Cross (ARC) Instructor Training Workshop Funding Request**

Scott provided information related to offering First Aid/CPR/AED instructor training at the NATA Convention each year. Attendees will become certified CPR instructors for Lay Responders and PRO Rescuers. Attendees will also have the opportunity to recertify their ECC requirement with the BOC. Scott will work with the MarCom team on communications to disseminate information on this training. An AT taking this training would realize a savings compared to taking the same training within the community.

VOTED: PER THE FINANCE COMMITTEE’S REVIEW, TO APPROVE FUNDING UP TO $8,930 FOR THE AMERICAN RED CROSS (ARC) INSTRUCTOR TRAINING WORKSHOP FROM FISCAL YEAR SAVINGS OR BOARD DESIGNATED FUNDS IN FY 2017-2018 AND TO INCLUDE IT IN FUTURE YEAR BUDGETS.  
(6,3) PASSED 10-0-0
Treasurer Weston and President Sailor welcomed Joe Greene, MS, ATC, to the board meeting. Greene presented the funding request and reminded the board this is the expected continuation of the Third Party Reimbursement Pilot Project. Results from the project were shared previously with the board. This program will be similar to NATA’s state legislative grant program, in that states have buy-in and works on a matching principal when distributing funds. The current request is to assist up to five states, with a maximum of $10,000 each. Weston clarified there will be an annual report to the board with the return on investment evaluated each year before inclusion in future budgets. Greene stressed that legislative grant funds cannot be used for the third party reimbursement initiative or vice versa.

**VOTED:**  **PER THE FINANCE COMMITTEE’S REVIEW, APPROVE FUNDING UP TO $50,000 FOR THE THIRD PARTY REIMBURSEMENT INITIATIVE GRANT PROGRAM FROM FISCAL YEAR SAVINGS OR BOARD DESIGNATED FUNDS IN FY 2017-2018 AND TO INCLUDE IT IN FUTURE YEAR BUDGETS.**  
**6,3 PASSED 10-0-0**

Greene requested approval from the board to move forward with a peer-reviewed payor outcome manuscript. Greene stated claims data from Athletic Trainers (ATs), Physical Therapists (PTs) and Occupational Therapists (OTs) are now available. Requests for claims comparisons from these three professions have been requested by Medicaid Wisconsin. This is an opportunity to demonstrate that ATs are a cost effective provider. Stephanie Kliethermes, PhD, did a similar outcome study for PTs. Greene stated OrthoVise would be asking for a proposal from Kliethermes and the outcome study would be provided to NATA at no cost. Greene hopes to present the results at the June board meeting in New Orleans.

**VOTED:**  **TO APPROVE MOVING FORWARD WITH A PEER-REVIEWED PAYOR OUTCOMES STUDY.**  
**5,1 PASSED 10-0-0**

Korey Stringer Institute (KSI) Request for Reduced Convention Registration for NFL Grant Award Recipients

Rachael Oats presented a request from KSI for NATA to offer reduced convention registration fees to the NFL Grant recipients. KSI is paying for flights and hotel nights for up to 55 grant recipients to attend training prior to the start of NATA’s 2018 Convention. KSI would like NATA to offer a $100 per person discount to ATs at secondary schools that received an NFL grant. If all recipients attended, NATA could see a potential reduced registration income of $5,500. Weston recommended that this be brought back before the Finance Committee if KSI wants to continue this in future years.

**VOTED:**  **PER THE FINANCE COMMITTEE’S REVIEW, APPROVE THE $100 PER PERSON DISCOUNT (WITH A MAXIMUM DISCOUNT OF $5,500) ON NATA 2018 NEW ORLEANS CONVENTION REGISTRATION FEES FOR NFL GRANT AWARD RECIPIENTS.**  
**6,2 PASSED 10-0-0**

Treasurer Weston thanked the Finance Committee and the board for its review of the documents and thanked staff for its hard work on the audit.

**CLOSED SESSION**
The board went into a closed session and returned to open session at 12:30 p.m.

**MEMBER SERVICES UPDATE**

**Higher Logic Program Update**

Meredith Daniels presented on GATher, which is the brand name NATA will use going forward for the Higher Logic platform online community. NATA will have the ability to moderate posts and nothing can be posted anonymously. The first online communities will be professional interest groups. The board requested its own community.

_Tory Lindley left the meeting and gave his proxy to Craig Voll, district four director-elect._

**Go4Ellis**

Daniels reported one AT earned almost $7,500 in per diem income using the Go4Ellis app.
**Membership Statistics**
Daniels stated current membership renewal statistics remain constant year-over-year. NATA is tracking for growth again in 2018. Total NATA members for PR use is 45,000.

**OFFICIAL STATEMENT ON MANAGING MEDICATIONS IN A SPORTS MEDICINE FACILITY UPDATE**
Oats commented the official statement is nearing completion and is with NATA’s legal team now. After the legal review, it will be sent to all participants for endorsement. The statement could be on the board’s agenda for review as early as March.

**NATA FOUNDATION**
**Financial Update**
Brian Conway stated the NATA Foundation is working to grow its unrestricted funds. He urged districts to consider giving to unrestricted funds rather than a designated endowment. These can be used to react quickly to projects that come up. He stated the NATA Foundation is well on its way to meeting its financial goals.

**Research Agenda for the Profession Update**
Conway commended R.T. Floyd, EdD, ATC, for the excellent job the task force is doing on the Research Agenda for the Profession. He encouraged directors to complete a survey the task force will send out shortly.

**Circle of Champions**
The NATA Foundation is asking donors to contribute on an ongoing, monthly basis rather than as a yearly occurrence. This will assist the NATA Foundation with its budget planning. Conway stated more information would be on the NATA Foundation website shortly.

**Special Events**
Conway spoke about upcoming events during the 2018 Convention. The NATA Foundation will host a “Speak Easy” evening, the NATA Foundation 5K Fueled by Gatorade, a Silent Auction, and the Pinky Newell Scholarship and Leadership Reception. Several directors requested Conway review the pictures and terminology used on the Speak Easy graphics as some members had expressed concern.

**NATA Foundation Director Update**
Conway reported NATA continues to assist with the search for a new director for the NATA Foundation. Saddler pointed out, for newer board members, that NATA provides in-kind staff support for the Foundation. He said this will still be the case when the new director is hired. The new director will ease the duties of Rachael Oats.

**REGULATORY AND REIMBURSEMENT UPDATE**
Callender provided an overview of 2017 activities and accomplishments, including comments on the Presidential Commission on Combating Drug Addiction and the Opioid Crisis, Department of Labor (DOL) Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) rules, and Bureau of Labor Statistics Standard Occupational Classification. She discussed NATA participation in Coalition to Preserve Rehabilitation (CPR), and the National Alliance for Nutrition and Activity (NANA). President Sailor provided testimony at the US Senate Committee on Commerce, Science & Transportation hearing on “Current Issues in American Sports: Protecting the Health and Safety of American Athletes” and was nominated to the Pain management Best Practices Inter-Agency Task Force within Health and Human Services (HHS). Callender reviewed potential future opportunities with new issues in the health care industry.

In reimbursement, staff submitted comments to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) on its Proposed Rule on Custom Fabricated Orthotics. Although CMS withdrew the rule, staff plan to continue its advocacy of ATs as providers of orthotics and prosthetics. Callender reported on the ACO Demonstration Project by the Health Care Reform Workgroup and stated a Request for Proposal is in development.

Callender said the aim of NATA’s legislative and regulatory agenda is to build upon the momentum from past successes, seek new issues and opportunities, prepare to face potential threats, and plan for the future.

**DISTRICT DIRECTOR REPORTS**
Districts I and II
Directors Weston and Duffy announced the 2019 EATA meeting in Valley Forge, PA, and thanked those who attended EATA 2018.

District III
Director Flanagan announced the District III meeting in Ocean City, MD, May 17-20, 2018.

District IV
Director-elect Voll shared this will be GLATA’s 50th anniversary. The meeting will be held in Wheeling, IL, March 15-17. The district continues talks of restructuring with further discussion of next steps to come in March.

District V
Director Coberley announced the District V meeting March 15-17 in La Vista, NE.

District VI
Director Hall stated the SWATA executive board would meet February 11-12. District VI meetings will be held in Arlington, TX for the next three years.

District VII
Director Mathewson announced the district meeting would be held April 12-17, 2018, in Salt Lake City, UT.

District VIII
Director-elect Nakagawa invited board members to attend the District VIII meeting April 26-29 in Las Vegas, NV.

District IX
District IX’s meeting will be held March 8-10 in Atlanta, GA. SEATA plans to get an ATs Care team certified at the district level and then move onto state level certification. The district is reaching out to ATs in Puerto Rico affected by Hurricane Maria.

District X
Director Fitzpatrick said his district meeting would be held in Portland, OR, March 22-25.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT
Saddler stated NATA’s primary contact at Venable, Jeff Tenenbaum, recently left the firm. Our main contact at Venable is now George Constantine, former in-house counsel for the American Society for Association Executives (ASAE). President Sailor, President-elect Lindley and Saddler will attend the Joint Commission on Sports Medicine Society (JCSMS) February 9-11. JCSMS provides NATA with access to other associations and promotes valuable relationships within the sports medicine community. Saddler noted NATA has a new tenant in the space adjacent.

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 2017 BOARD MEETING (ALL)
- NATA POSITION STATEMENT: MANAGEMENT OF INDIVIDUALS WITH PATELLOFEMORAL PAIN
- APPROVE SAVANNAH KNIGHTON (D9) AS CHAIR OF THE STUDENT LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE (SLC) BEGINNING JUNE 2018

(1, 3) PASSED 10-0-0

OLD BUSINESS
There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS
Directors reported a few students and young professionals asked if NATA has a resource to allow whistle-blowers to report various abuses anonymously. Sailor and Saddler referenced the resources being developed by PRAT and COPE. They also pointed out the importance of law enforcement, BOC, state boards, institution HR functions and other resources, depending on circumstances.

Several directors expressed concern over the upcoming convention schedule change for the Pinky Newell Scholarship and Leadership event. Director Fitzpatrick, board liaison to the Young Professionals Committee (YPC) explained the reasoning behind the recent time change.

**INCOMING BOARD MEMBER SCOOP**
Diane Sartanowicz, incoming District I Director gave a brief presentation introducing herself to the board.

**ADJOURNMENT**
After appropriate thank yous, President Sailor adjourned the meeting at 2:52 p.m.