

Alabama Orthopaedic Society Board of Directors' Meeting
Sunday, Nov. 21, 2021
Montgomery Country Club

Minutes

The Alabama Orthopaedic Society held its 2021 Fall Board of Directors' Meeting on Sunday, November 21 at The Montgomery Country Club in Montgomery, Alabama.

AOS President, Dr. Michael Johnson opened the meeting.

Those in attendance were: AOS President, Michael Johnson, M.D.; AOS President-Elect, Grant Zarzour, M.D.; AOS Secretary Treasurer, James Davis, M.D.; AOS Member-at-Large Michael Smith, M.D.; UAB Member-at-Large Clay Spittler, M.D.; UAB Resident Member-at-Large, Jacob Hawkins, M.D. Attending via video conference were UAB Members-at-Large Jonathan Jennings, M.D. and Allan Maples, M.D. Also, in attendance was AOS Executive Director, Terri Mendez.

The minutes of the BOD meeting of May 13, 2021 having previously been distributed and there being no corrections, deletions, or additions, and upon a motion and second, the May 13 Board of Directors' minutes were approved unanimously.

Financial Report:

Dr. Davis gave the financial report, a copy of which was distributed to those in attendance.

AOS has approximately \$ 290,000 (Market Value) in its Reserve accounts. AOS has approximately \$63,000.00 in its checking account and \$10,166.00 in its savings account.

2020 AOS dues revenue is currently \$57,000.

Membership

There are approximately 300 members of Alabama Orthopaedic Society.

The Board approved the Financial Report.

AOS 2022 Annual Meeting:

Mississippi Orthopaedic Society (MOS) has agreed to continue meeting with AOS in 2022 and 2023. As AOS will be celebrating its 70th anniversary in 2022, Mrs. Mendez has invited all living Past-Presidents of AOS to attend. They will be honored at the meeting. The 2022 Meeting will also host UAB, USA and UMMC residency reunions. Invitations have been sent to former resident via email or US mail. We plan to recognize the universities as well as the residency programs. There was discussion about the reunion and anniversary activity. Dr. Johnson plans to enlist the help of Dr. Joseph Sherrill to share information about the History of Orthopaedics in Alabama.

The Foot Club Meeting will be held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting. Dr. Jess Mullins, who recently joined USA Dept. of Orthopaedics, will serve as the chair of the meeting.

Dr. Michael Smith, along with other upper extremity surgeons in Birmingham, have asked to include a Hand Meeting in conjunction with the annual meeting. The Orthopaedic Hand Meeting will be held Thursday, May 19 immediately following the Foot Club Meeting.

Mrs. Mendez has begun to actively invite members and exhibitors to participate in the meeting.

2022 AOS Yelton Essay Award Committee:

Dr. Chris Parks will serve as chairman of the Yelton committee through 2022. Dr. Andrew Morris will continue to serve two more years and Dr. Brad Wills has joined the committee for a 3-year term. Dr. Smith recommended Dr. Daniel Kim to join the committee in 2023.

AOS 2021 Speakers-Presenters-Exhibitors:

Dr. George Dyer, a leading orthopaedic educator at Harvard Medical School has committed to serve as Dr. Johnson's Presidential Guest Speaker.

The MOS Presidential Guest Speaker is pending. There was some conversation about potential speakers from Mississippi Dr. Spitler and Dr. Johnson may reach out to MOS leadership.

Dr. Felix Savoie, AAOS 1st Vice-President, will join us as the AAOS Presidential Line Speaker and provide an update at the meeting.

The board will continue to consider a political speaker. Some suggestions were Alabama Congressman, Barry Moore, Jerry Carl, or Alabama Senator Tommy Tuberville as speaker. Mrs. Mendez mentioned that Mississippi Orthopaedic Society may have some political contacts as well.

NOLC:

Mrs. Mendez reported that she and Dr. Fleming Brooks visited several of Alabama's members of Congress as well as staff of Senator Shelby during the 2022 NOLC Meeting in Washington, DC. The topics of discussion were prior authorization and delays in medical care, Orthopaedic research funding, and planned payment policy changes.

Legislative Update:

Mr. Niko Corley, MASA Director of Legislative Affairs, briefed the board of anticipated legislative issues in the upcoming Alabama Legislative Session.

Among those of interest to orthopaedics:

- Podiatry Bill – A bill to increase podiatry scope of practice is expected to come up again in 2022.
- Physical Therapy – Anticipate a bill that will allow direct access to physical therapists again in 2022.

Mr. Corley discussed the importance of the AOS Board of Directors to clearly decide, prior to the session, what we will or will not allow regarding these scope of practice issues. He also emphasized the importance of grassroots efforts reaching out to legislators between now and the beginning of the session in January.

The board of directors discussed getting their partners mobilized to communicate with representatives prior to and during the 2022 session. Mr. Corley also discussed some media options directed toward legislators. He recommended advertising in political blogs read by legislators. Although this may be costly, it will most certainly be seen by legislators. Mrs. Mendez reminded The Board that AOS was awarded grants from AAOS in 2019 and 2021 to be used for legislative issues and those funds have not been used.

Adjourn:

There being no further business before The Board. The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted November 20, 2022

Teresa Mendez

AOS Executive Director