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General Assembly – August 2, 2013 – New Orleans, LA

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**DRAFT GENERAL ASSEMBLY MINUTES**

Hotel Monteleone, New Orleans, LA

August 2, 2013, 1:00 pm

**PRESENT:**

Derek Anderson, MD, FAAFP

Donie Batie, MD, FAAFP

Gregory Bell, MD, FAAFP

Walter Birdsall, MD, FAAFP

Lacey Cavanaugh, MD

Michelle Cosse, MD

Bruce Craig, MD, FAAFP

Thomas Davis, MD, FAAFP

Mark Dawson, MD, FAAFP

J Charles Dugal, MD

Phillip Ehlers, MD

Brian Elkins, MD, FAAFP

Thomas Fontenot, MD, FAAFP

Kelly Fuqua, MD

Jason Fuqua, MD

Wayne Gravois, MD

Wei Guo, MD

Michael Harper, MD, FAAFP

Brian Harrell, MD

Chris Hayes, MD

Jack Heidenreich, MD

Daniel Jens, MD, FAAFP

Robert Lahasky, MD, FAAFP

David Lanson, MD, FAAFP

Alan LeBato, MD, FAAFP

William Long, MD

Melissa Love, MD

Christian Mayorga, MD

Lawrence McManus, MD,

FAAFP

Darrin Menard, MD, FAAFP

Joseph Nida, MD

Natalie Phillips, MD

Bryan Picou, MD, FAAFP

Marguerite Picou, MD, FAAFP

Camille Pitre, MD

Kevin Plaisance, MD

Gerald Sparks, MD

Kerry Sterling, MD

Linda Stewart, MD, FAAFP

J Dean Stockstill, MD, FAAFP

M. Tahir Qayyum, MD, FAAFP

Margo Thomas, MD

James Taylor, MD

Michael Williams, MD, FAAFP

**Special Guests**

Thomas Grimstad, MD

Mike Reitz

Richard Madden, MD

**LAFP Staff:**

Ragan LeBlanc, Executive Vice President

Jammie Dowden-Olsen, Event and Communications Coordinator

Meghan Daniel, Foundation Coordinator

Joe Mapes-LAFP Lobbyist

Sandy Mapes-LAFP Lobbyist

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**CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. Derek Anderson called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

**INVOCATION**

Dr. Daniel Jens gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Dr. Anderson led the pledge of allegiance.

**IN MEMORIAM REPORT**

Dr. Anderson reviewed the Memoriam Report, he asked for a moment of silence for a member who passed away since the last General Assembly: Arthur T. Fort, MD and Myles K. Gaupp, MD

## **INTRODUCTION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Dr. Anderson then recognized the LAFP Board members by asking them to stand. He stated that the Academy could not exist without their support. He then asked the members of the Assembly to recognize them by a round of applause. He did the same for those who have served on an LAFP Committee.

## **INTRODUCTION OF GUEST SPEAKER – THOMAS GRIMSTAD, MD**

Dr. Anderson introduced Dr. Thomas H. Grimstad, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Louisiana Medical Mutual Insurance Company. He went on to say that in January 2008, Dr. Grimstad became the fourth physician to lead LAMMICO since the company was founded almost thirty years ago. Dr. Anderson informed the Assembly that Dr. Grimstad is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin and the Tulane University School of Medicine, and he is board certified in both Internal Medicine and Pulmonary Disease. From 1977 until 2005, Dr. Grimstad practiced medicine at the West Jefferson Medical Center in Marrero, Louisiana. During that time, he served as Chief of Staff for the large medical facility located on the west bank of Greater New Orleans. Dr. Grimstad's association with LAMMICO started as a policyholder. He was later appointed to several LAMMICO committees; covering the areas of Claims, Risk Management & Underwriting. A former Past President of the Jefferson Parish Medical Society, Dr. Grimstad has served as a board member at LAMMICO since 1998. Dr. Grimstad has been instrumental in maintaining LAMMICO's solid financial position, even in the wake of current economic instability. Since being President and CEO, LAMMICO has awarded four consecutive dividends to all of its policyholders in both Louisiana and Arkansas.

## **ADDRESS OF GUEST SPEAKER – THOMAS GRIMSTAD, MD**

Dr. Grimstad began by discussing the Medical Malpractice Cap. He explained his thoughts that the decision should be upheld for many years. Because of this, during this legislative session there wasn't much activity on medical malpractice. Dr. Grimstad then gave an overview of malpractice claims on general practice and family medicine physicians. The data presented came from the Physicians Insurers Association of America (PIAA). PIAA began a project in 1985 that developed the largest independent database of medical professional liability claims. He informed everyone that most of the claims that were being presented were closed but wanted everyone to be aware of the data that is currently available. Currently, family medicine ranks third out of twenty-eight specialties with 1.6 billion dollars being paid out for claims between 1985 and 2011. He reported that in 2011, \$66 million dollars was paid out on claims with \$291,000 being the average of claims paid and \$7.2 million being the highest amount paid for a claim against a family doctor. He stated that in 2011, of all the specialty data, family medicine claims accounted for 7.7% being closed claims and 7.5% being through indemnity. He also reported that the most prevalent claims against family medicine physicians were due to diagnostic error, improper performance of procedures, medication errors and failure to supervise of monitor cases. With regards to diagnostic errors, the number of the highest number of paid claims were due to acute myocardial infarction. This was followed by breast cancer, appendicitis, lung cancer and colorectal cancer. Dr. Grimstad provided an analysis of what problems were present with regards to the five areas that were related to diagnostic errors.

He went on to discuss claims that involved informed consent issues. He reported that in 2012, the law was revised regarding informed consents for patients. He stated that the Medical Disclosure panel reviewed the list of procedures and associated risks. He also stated that associations like the LAFP should review the lists yearly and make recommendations to the panel.

Next, Dr. Grimstad provided an update on LAMMICO and the financial strength of the company. He reported that over the past nineteen years, they had received an excellent rating with a stable outlook. He then stated that in 2013, they had been raised to an excellent rating with a positive outlook. In 2012, LAMMICO has a 95% policyholder retention rate, which exceeds the industry average. Lastly, he stated that in 2013, \$5.1 million dollars in dividends were returned to insureds for the sixth consecutive year.

In closing, Dr. Grimstad stated that LAMMICO provides much more than data and can help you as you manage your patients in the office. He discussed the risk management initiative that is currently offered which provides online CME, education and tools.

### **INTRODUCTION OF GUEST SPEAKER – MIKE REITZ**

Dr. Anderson introduced the next speaker, Mr. Mike Reitz. Mr. Reitz is the president and chief executive officer of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana (BCBSLA). In his role he is responsible for overseeing all aspects of the company's operations, including its eight regional offices and 1,700 employees. Mr. Reitz is responsible for setting corporate goals and developing corporate strategy with the Board of Directors and senior management. Prior to assuming the position of president and chief executive officer in 2009, Reitz served as the company's interim leader for a seven-month period. Before taking on his interim role, he was the company's senior vice president and chief marketing officer from 2000 to 2009. He provided strategic direction for Marketing Division, overseeing group and individual product marketing efforts and Corporate Communications. A seasoned marketing and business leader, Reitz has more than 30 years of healthcare industry experience. The majority of his career has been spent in leadership positions within BCBSLA, where he has also served as Director of Provider Affairs, Vice President of Individual Sales and Government Relations, Vice President of Corporate Development and Vice President of Individual Sales and Marketing.

### **ADDRESS OF GUEST SPEAKER – MIKE REITZ**

Mr. Reitz began by thanking the LAFP for allowing Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana to be a sponsor of the meeting. He went on to explain that there will be many changes over the next year and that BCBSLA has been working hard to stop any confusion. With the changes brought about by the Affordable Care Act (ACA), healthcare has had to be completely reengineered. Mr. Reitz explained that BCBSLA has invested a couple hundred million dollars into the ACA because of the mandates included in the act. He said that the biggest change coming because of the ACA, is the development of insurance marketplace exchanges that will be available on October 1, 2013. He explained that the exchanges are somewhat controversial and varies from state to state. He reported that Louisiana options will be available online. Mr. Reitz stated that BCBSLA will continue to work with the government to fix deficiencies of the ACA. He went on to discuss the importance of patients knowing the changes that will come about because of the ACA. He stated that patients will have the option to choose from a Bronze, Silver, Gold, or Platinum policy, with bronze providing the least coverage and platinum providing the most. Mr. Reitz explained that there will be different subsidies offered that will be dependent on income status, to help with premium costs. He discussed that younger people could be paying more, while older people paying less. Mr. Reitz then said that there is no way to determine what the outcome will be and that it should be interesting over the next few years for the industry. Mr. Reitz then answered a few questions from the audience.

### **INTRODUCTION OF THE GUEST SPEAKER – RICHARD MADDEN, MD, FAAFP**

Richard F. Madden, Jr., MD, FAAFP, a family physician in Belen, N.M., serves on the board of directors of the American Academy of Family Physicians. Dr. Madden is a practicing family physician with the Presbyterian Medical Group in Belen, where he has practiced rural family medicine for more than 25 years. He also serves as a clinical assistant professor of family and community medicine at the University of New Mexico School of Medicine, Albuquerque. As an AAFP board member, he advocates on behalf of family physicians and patients nationwide to inspire positive change in the U.S. health care system.

At the state level, Madden has been an active member of the New Mexico Academy of Family Physicians since 1983 where he has served in numerous leadership positions, including past-president and board chair. A champion of the patient-centered medical home model of care, Madden was instrumental in helping pass legislation to test the PCMH model in New Mexico's Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program. He now serves on the project's implementation advisory committee. Madden also is an active member of the New Mexico Medical Society where he currently serves as speaker and Valencia County delegate.

Madden was awarded the New Mexico Family Doctor of the Year award in 1992. He graduated from Brown University, Providence, R.I., with a bachelor's degree in biology. He earned his medical degree from the University of New Mexico School of Medicine where he also completed his family medicine residency.

### **ADDRESS OF THE GUEST SPEAKER – RICHARD MADDEN, MD, FAAFP**

Dr. Madden began by giving an overview of the vision and mission for the AAFP. He then discussed the membership, providing an overview of the increases in members, stating that student membership and resident retention was

increasing as well. He stated that the AAFP is committed to helping family physicians improve the health of Americans by: advancing the specialty of family medicine, saving member's time, and maximizing their funds. Then, he gave a breakdown with regards to membership dues and where the money is used. He reported that for every \$100 spent by the AAFP: \$33.27 goes to education, \$19.11 to health of the public, \$28.24 to advocacy, and \$19.38 to practice enhancement.

Dr. Madden stated that he was proud to see the work that the LAFP has done for Patient Centered Medical Home through the CONNECT 2014 program.

He discussed the demographics of the AAFP membership where he reported that the membership was comprised of: 40% Females, 60% Males, 62% are Employed, 24% are New Physicians. He said that the number of physicians who are employed is expected to increase to 75% in 2015. Dr. Madden went on to discuss the primary concerns of employed Family Physicians that was: 51% being payment issues and 38% medical liability. He stated that the national academy has seen an increase in attention from medical students. Dr. Madden attributes this increase in the attention to the changes in primary care. Dr. Madden then further discussed PCMH and described its importance. He also discussed student loans and the differences between public and private medical school tuitions.

Dr. Madden then briefly discussed scope of practice issues. He stated that all allied health professionals are valuable to Family Physicians and should be part of a collaborative effort. Through the PCMH concept, all layers of health professionals can work together for the common goal of the patient. Then, Dr. Madden talked about FamMedPac. He said that we cannot afford to ignore the fight. He reported that Louisiana had 35 donors who contributed last year with the average donation being \$365. Dr. Madden said that this means only 4.19% of the chapter had donated. Lastly he reported that LA currently has only had 15 donors who have contributed for 2013.

Lastly, Dr. Madden discussed TransforMed and its importance to small practices. He stated that because it is more difficult for small and independent practices to reach NCQA certification, taking advantage of resources that is available for practices is incredibly important. Dr. Madden discussed the payment enhancement practices can receive for achieving this certification.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business for discussion on the agenda.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### **APPROVAL OF 2012 GA MINUTES**

Dr. Anderson requested that all members in attendance review the minutes. The following motion was adopted by unanimous consent of the Assembly:

#### **MOTION (APPROVED)**

**THAT THE AUGUST 3, 2012 MEETING MINUTES BE APPROVED AS WRITTEN. THE MOTION CARRIED.**

##### **INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS AND LATE RESOLUTIONS**

Dr. Anderson stated that there were no new resolutions submitted to the General Assembly for consideration.

##### **TASK FORCE ON BYLAWS REVISION**

Dr. Anderson stated that in the handbook was a report submitted by the Bylaws Review Taskforce discussing the revisions that had been made to the current LAFP Bylaws. He stated that because of the changes that were reflected in the approved AAFP bylaws, that the LAFP was required to amend its bylaws to incorporate these changes. He said that no major changes were made and that the Bylaws was revised for overall better understanding and organization. He asked the General Assembly to review the report that had been submitted and asked for approval. The following motion was then made, seconded and approved by unanimous consent:

#### **MOTION (APPROVED)**

**THAT THE LAFP BYLAWS REVISIONS REPORT BE ACCEPTED AS WRITTEN. THE MOTION CARRIED.**

**REPORT OF OFFICERS**

There were no verbal officer reports given during the General Assembly meeting.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE – Brian Elkins, MD**

Dr. Elkins stated that the primary product of the Education Committee is the Annual Assembly. He asked that if anyone wanted to be on the committee to contact him.

**OPERATIONS COMMITTEE – Bryan Picou, MD**

Dr. Anderson stated that the financial reports were included in the General Assembly packet. He asked if the Treasure had any report to provide on the financials. Dr. Picou stated that the financials for the LAFP appear to be sound. He listed the accounts holding as follows:

Operating Account: \$50, 385.97  
Reserve Account: \$212, 903.5  
Credit Card Account: \$56,497.00  
National Campaign Fund: \$1,661.00  
TOTAL: \$321,447.47

He discussed that the PAC has a few thousand dollars and that if we want to meet with politicians, the money will have to come out of that account. Dr. Picou asked everyone to donate to the PAC and reminded them of the importance of doing so.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE- James Taylor, MD**

Dr. Anderson turned the floor over to Dr. James Taylor to report on the nominations for the LAFP Foundation and the LAFP Academy Board of Directors. Dr. Taylor referred to the nomination slates that were included in the handbook. He stated that there were a few positions open for District Board Members. He stated that if anyone had an interest in these open positions, that nominations would need to be made from the floor.

**LEGISLATIVE & MEMBERSHIP ISSUES COMMITTEE – James Taylor, MD**

Dr. Taylor went on to discuss the legislative business of the LAFP. He updated the Assembly on the legislative session and the LAFP bill that was filed during the session that would have enforced the restrictions of a collaborating practice agreement between a physician and a nurse practitioner, as well as placed the nurse practitioners under the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners. He informed the Assembly that Senator Dale Erdey was the author of the bill and provided an update on what occurred with the bill during session. He stated that the bill was deferred in committee after the LAFP and the Louisiana Association of Nurse Practitioners agreed to a Memorandum of Understanding that both parties signed to work together over the next eight months to try and come to some sort of agreement with regards to issues that are present regarding physicians and nurse practitioners. He informed the Assembly that a workgroup had been formed where eight representatives will come together to discuss these issues. The group members consist of 2 representatives from the LAFP, 2 representatives from the LANP, and 1 representative from the Louisiana State Medical Society, Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners, Louisiana State Board of Nursing and the Louisiana Nurses Association. He thanked all who had contacted their legislators during the session and volunteered their time to help with the LAFP's efforts. He went on to discuss that the workgroup had its first meeting where there was discussion regarding hiring a facilitator to mediate the workgroup efforts. He informed the Assembly that both groups had interviewed several candidates and had chosen SSA consultants. The cost of the mediators would be somewhere around \$25,000 that would be split between the LANP and LAFP.

Dr. Taylor then thanked the LAFP lobbyists, Joe and Sandy Mapes and Ms. Bilee Yelverton, for all of their hard work and said that they would not be near this position without them. Dr. Taylor then stressed the importance of participation from the membership and reminded everyone of on the importance of donating to LaFamPac.

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS OF LAFP AND LAFP FOUNDATION OFFICERS**

Dr. Anderson stated that nominations could be made from the floor for any vacant positions. Dr. James Taylor read the nominations and stated that Alternate District Director positions were still vacant in districts 1A and 3A. He encouraged members of the Assembly to fill these positions. No one volunteered to fill the vacant positions. With no further discussion, the following motion was made by unanimous consent of the Assembly:

**MOTION (APPROVED)**

**THAT THE SLATE OF NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2013-2014 LAFP AND LAFP FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS BE ACCEPTED. THE MOTION CARRIED.**

**MATCH DATA**

Dr. Anderson reported that from the three state medical schools, there were a total of 31 students who chose Family Medicine. He stated that this was pretty close to the national average and that overall this was a good year.

**DISTRICT DIRECTOR/ALTERNATE REPORTS**

No verbal or written reports were provided.

**FAMILY MEDICINE DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Dr. Anderson stated that written reports were submitted and included in the handbook.

**FAMILY MEDICINE RESIDENCY PROGRAM DIRECTOR REPORTS**

Dr. Anderson stated that the written Residency Program reports submitted were included in the handbook.

**LAFP FOUNDATION**

**PRESIDENTS REPORT – Wayne Gravois, MD**

Dr. Gravois presented the President's Report since Dr. Euans was not present at the meeting. Dr. Gravois stated that a written report was included in the General Assembly handbook and that he did not have anything additional to report.

**2013 FAMILY MEDICINE AWARD WINNERS**

Dr. Gravois informed the Assembly that the recipient of the 2013 Michael O. Fleming, MD Family Medicine Award was Kathryn Nance. He stated that the 2013 Gerald R. Gehringer, MD Family Medicine Award went to Danielle Duhon and the recipient of the 2013 Tulane Family Medicine Award was Renee DeRosa. He congratulated each of the recipients.

**TAR WARS REPORT**

Dr. Anderson informed the Assembly that a written Tar Wars report was included in the handbook. Dr. Gravois stated that this year there will be a concerted effort from himself, residency programs, and the LAFP to make Tar Wars a great success. He told the members present that a grant to help fund Tar Wars activities had been applied for and that they should know by the end of the year if the Foundation will receive that grant.

**LaFamPac BOARD – Marguerite “Cissy” Picou, MD**

Dr. Marguerite “Cissy” Picou addressed the Assembly and asked members who had not already donated to LaFamPac and FamMedPAC to do so as soon as possible. She thanked everyone who had already contributed. Dr. Picou said that to really do well this year, the PAC needs between 10-15,000 dollars. Dr. Picou challenged the members of the Assembly by stating that if \$3000 was donated by the end of the meeting that the donations would be matched by Dr. Anderson, Dr. Gravois, Dr. Taylor, and Drs. Bryan and Cissy Picou.

**ADDITIONAL NEW BUSINESS**

There was no additional new business.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Dr. Anderson informed the Assembly that Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana was hosting the annual LAFP Foundation Auction and President's Party at the Bourbon Vieux at 7:00 pm.

## **ELECTION RESULTS**

Due to there being no special elections during the General Assembly, the following officers were elected for the 2013-2014 year:

President:	Michael Harper, MD, Shreveport, LA
President-Elect:	Melvin Bourgeois, MD, Morgan City, LA
Vice President:	James Taylor, MD, Zachary, LA
Secretary:	Brian Elkins, MD, Alexandria, LA
Treasurer:	Bryan Picou, MD, Natchitoches, LA
Speaker:	Derek Anderson, MD, Baton Rouge, LA
Vice-Speaker/GA:	Daniel Jens, MD, Mandeville, LA
AAFP Delegate:	Russell Roberts, MD, Shreveport, LA
AAFP Delegate:	Marguerite Picou, MD, Natchitoches, LA
AAFP Alternate Delegate:	James Campbell, MD, Kenner, LA
AAFP Alternate Delegate:	Bryan Picou, MD, Natchitoches, LA

## **Board of Directors**

District 1 Director:	Mary Coleman, MD, New Orleans, LA
District 1 Alternate:	Position Vacant
District 2 Director:	Daniel Jens, MD, Mandeville, LA
District 2 Alternate:	Luis Arencibia, MD, Mandeville, LA
District 3A Director:	Jack Heidenreich, MD, Raceland, LA
District 3A Alternate:	Position Vacant
District 3B Director:	Indira Gautam, MD, Lafayette, LA
District 3B Alternate:	Zeb Stearns, MD, Eunice, LA
District 4 Director:	Ricky Jones, MD, Shreveport, LA
District 4 Alternate:	Gregory Bell, MD, Coushatta, LA
District 5 Director:	M. Tahir Qayyum, MD, Bastrop, LA
District 5 Alternate:	Tobe Momah, MD, West Monroe, LA
District 6A Director:	Phillip Ehlers, MD, Baton Rouge, LA
District 6A Alternate:	Carol Smothers-Swift, MD, New Roads, LA
District 6B Director:	Richard Friend, MD, Bogalusa, LA
District 6B Alternate:	Christopher Foret, MD, Franklinton, LA
District 7 Director:	Jason Fuqua, MD, Sulphur, LA
District 7 Alternate:	Jody George, MD, Lake Charles, LA

District 8 Director: Jonathan Hunter, MD, Alexandria, LA  
District 8 Alternate: Matthew Erickson, MD, Jena, LA  
District Director at Large: Admir Seferovic, MD, Innis, LA  
District Director at Large Alt: Esther Holloway, MD, Coushatta, LA

Resident Representative: Megan Hartman, MD, Luling, LA  
Resident Alternate: Richard Bridges, MD, Amite, LA  
Student Representative: Ronald Slipman, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA  
Student Alternate: Hannah Ray, Louisiana State University, New Orleans, LA

**Foundation Board of Directors**

President: Mark Dawson, MD  
President-Elect: Michael Harper, MD  
Secretary: Brian Elkins, MD  
Treasurer: Bryan Picou, MD  
Immediate Past President: Russell Roberts, MD  
Lay Member #1: Lee Ann Albert  
Lay Member #2: Barry Dunn  
Lay Member #3: Kim Gassie  
Lay Member #4: Nadine Robin  
Lay Member #5: Kenny Laborde  
LAFP Member #1: E. Edward Martin, MD  
LAFP Member #2: Russell Roberts, MD  
LAFP Member #3: Albert Rees, MD  
LAFP Member #4: Jonathan Hunter, MD

**ADJOURNMENT**

This concluding the General Assembly business, the following motion was made by unanimous consent of the Assembly:

**MOTION (APPROVED)**  
**THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING BE ADJOURNED AT 3:05 PM. THE MOTION CARRIED.**

Respectfully submitted,



A handwritten signature in black ink on a light-colored background. The signature reads "Derek Anderson" in a cursive script, followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Derek Anderson, MD  
Speaker  
General Assembly