DRAFT - GENERAL ASSEMBLY MINUTES

Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort
Baytowne Conference Center
July 26, 2024- 1:00 pm

PRESENT:

Derek Anderson, MD
Donnie Batie, MD, FAAFP
Gregory Bevels, MD, FAAFP
Roxanne Boyd, MD
Richard Bridges, MD, FAAFP
Kenneth Brown, MD, FAAFP
Lisa Casey, MD
Christopher Clark, DO
Michael Crick
Robin Dale, MD, FAAFP
Mark Dawson, MD, FAAFP
Nikki DeBord, MD
Brian Doss, MD, MPH
Jody George, MD
Nichole George, MD, FAAFP
Jessica Gilbert-Slipman, DO
Saad Hanan, MD
Karl Hanson, MD, FAAFP
Riaz Haque, MD
Kacy Henwood
Ernest James, MD
Rana Khazendar, MD
Lindsay Liles, MD
Dana Mays, MD
Caitlin McDaniel, MD
Hershel Meade, MD, FAAFP
Joseph Nida, MD, FAAFP
Brandon Page, MD
Dianna Phan, MD
Bryan Picou, Jr., MD
Daniel Piotter, MD
Zachary Pray, MD
Paul Rachal, MD, FAAFP
Alex Robertson, MD
Jason Schrock, MD
Peter Seidenberg, MD, FAAFP
Vincent Shaw, MD, FAAFP
Ronald Slipman, MD, FAAFP
Earl Soileau, MD
Frederick Stone, MD
Rick Streiffer, MD, FAAFP
James Taylor, MD, FAAFP
Oanh Truong, MD
Christopher Van Hise, MD
Landon Waite
Meghan Waite
Charles Webb, DO, FAAFP
Michael Williams, MD, FAAFP
Pamela Wiseman, MD

Special Guests

Larry Simon, MD, MBA, FACS - Blue Cross Blue Shield of LA
Gary LeRoy, MD, FAAFP – American Board of Family Medicine
Sterling Ransone, MD, FAAFP, AAFP Board Representative

LAFP Staff:

Ragan LeBlanc, Executive Vice President
Lee Ann Albert, Membership and Outreach Coordinator
Joe Mapes-LAFP Lobbyist
Sandy Mapes-LAFP Lobbyist

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Derek Anderson called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

INVOCATION

Dr. Dale Meade gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Dr. Anderson led the pledge of allegiance.

IN MEMORIAM REPORT

Dr. Lindsay Liles reviewed the Memoriam Report, she asked for a moment of silence for all member who passed away since the last General Assembly: Adolph B. Cronan, Jr, MD, John Joseph Finn, MD, MBA, Donald K. Haynes, MD, Glen Mire, MD, Jerry A. Thomas, MD and Warren Atwood Daniel, MD.

MEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Dr. Liles then recognized the LAFP members who had an LAFP membership anniversary and asked that they stand for recognition.

INTRODUCTION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dr. Liles then recognized the LAFP Board members that served the past year by asking them to stand.

INTRODUCTION OF GUEST SPEAKER – LARRY SIMON, MD, MBA, FACS

Dr. Liles gave an overview of Dr. Simon's background stating he is currently the managing medical director for medical policy and medical appeals for Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana, where he also serves as the medical director for coding and reimbursement and the chair of Credentialing and Medical Quality Management Committees. He's a member of the AMA CPT editorial panel, serving on the Executive Committee and as co-chair of the Molecular Pathology Advisory Group and Tumor Genomics Testing Workgroup. He also chairs the Medical Directors Forum for both the Louisiana Association of Health Plans and the National Anti-Fraud Advisory Board of Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

Prior to joining Blue Cross Blue Shield of Louisiana, Dr. Simon served in numerous leadership roles for the American Academy of Otolaryngology and the American Medical Association, the American College of Surgeons, and the Louisiana State Medical Society. Dr. Simon is an alumnus of the Louisiana State University, Baylor College of Medicine, Rady Children's Hospital, and the B.I. Moody College of Business at the University of Louisiana, a diplomate of the American Board of Otolaryngology, and a fellow of the American College of Surgeons.

Dr. Simon has over 14 years of experience in health policy and health care reform, and he has presented over 170 lectures and seminars on these topics. A Rotarian, an animal rescuer, a member of multiple civic boards, and a patron of the arts, Dr. Simon enjoys spending his time outside of work serving his community, helping the animal shelters and abandoned dogs of Louisiana, and traveling and enjoying life with his wife and their family and friends.

Dr. Liles proudly welcomed Dr. Larry Simon.

ADDRESS OF GUEST SPEAKER – LARRY SIMON, MD, MBA, FACS

Dr. Simon thanked the LAFP for allowing him to present at the meeting and provided an update. He discussed the importance of partnerships and how Blue Cross continues to renew and maintain their strong commitment to partnering with the primary care physicians of Louisiana and to provide the best health care that they can in Louisiana. He stated that BCBS hopes they can leverage through their organization is both their local presence and size and that they had been operating in Louisiana for over 90 years and that they pride themselves on being a Louisiana company. He went on to say that there are 1.9 million lives covered by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana plans and with this $6 billion dollar impact on the state's economy, it provides a wealth of claims and member data, of providers in the network, outstanding providers that they work with to help drive quality drive outcomes, physician directed initiatives to improve the health and lives of Louisianians. Dr. Simon informed the Assembly that they hope they can continue to use their size, scope and reach to partner with as many doctors as possible to help as many patients as possible in Louisiana.

Dr. Simon went on to discuss the changes in Medicaid and informed the assembly that the state began removing people who no longer qualify from Medicaid last year and have extended this into 2025. He stated that BCBS was working to help Louisianians stay covered. He informed the members that if they have patients that are losing their Medicaid eligibility, they are very likely to be able to qualify for some substantial subsidies to get coverage off the individual exchanges on healthcare.gov. He stated that if members had patients who are losing eligibility, they could use resources such as straight talk la.com and healthcare.gov, where information was available on the types of plans and what types of subsidies they qualify for and maintain coverage.

Dr. Simon went on to inform the members regarding the Gold Card Program that was launched last year. He stated that during the 2022 legislative session, a bill passed with combined support of LAHP and LSMS in conjunction with the payers,

to develop a gold card program for patients in Louisiana. He informed the members that as they continue to work towards easing prior authorization requirements and the amount of time and resources that both doctors and payers must commit to this process. He stated that according to their analysis of high-tech radiology authorizations performed between April 2022 and March 2023, there were 909 of eligible providers who met 50-case-per-year threshold to be considered for Gold Card status and 323 eligible providers met Gold Card criteria (across most specialties), eliminating 35,000 reviews from the Gold Card providers' annual workload. He informed the members that the acute care facilities were no longer performing concurrent reviews. He stated that this accounted for 146 acute hospitals in the state and that 86% of all acute care hospitals will no longer have to perform concurrent review activities, eliminating 52% of all inpatient reviews performed by our acute care facilities. Lastly, he stated that if a facility changes reimbursement methodology to the DRG, they will automatically be included in the Gold Card Program.

Dr. Simon went on to discuss the successes of Quality Blue over the past year. He stated that BCBS has moved to nationally recognizing clinical quality measures for preventive screenings, disease management and appropriate utilization. He stated that providers' performance would be evaluated nationally and not just among their peers. He informed the members that BCBS was expanding the program to include more provider types. He stated that BCBS was supportive of being able to offer affordable plans by keeping cost down through improving quality outcome. Lastly, he stated that overall, Quality Blue providers perform better on health quality measures than network providers who are not enrolled in the program. BCBS is working to engage as many providers as possible in Quality Blue to bring the program's benefits and health improvements to more members.

Dr. Simon informed the members that BCBS moved to the Epic platform to manage care in April and that 70% of their members were seeing providers using the platform. He stated that the platform was currently connected at more than 500 provider locations and that they hoped to expand this throughout the rest of the year. With Epic, Blue Cross can securely give providers up to 3x more information about the patients they're treating and connect the whole health team (Blue Cross clinicians, providers) for more effective coordination to close gaps in care.

Dr. Simon stated that it is important for Blue Cross to partner with the doctor community on screening interventions and preventative care for patients so that they are meeting certain guidelines and what screenings are going to be the most appropriate for patients with certain risk factors. He informed the membership that BCBS has case managers that work in conjunction with physician offices on outreach to patients, encouraging the patients to see their physicians and to talk to their physicians about the most appropriate screening tests and protocols, based on their conditions, lifestyles and risk factors. He stated that it was a two-pronged approach where they work hard to partner with the providers in the community, encouraging annual wellness visits. Dr. Simon went on to inform the members regarding the member outreach being done with regards to education on encouraging cancer screening. He stated that it is their call to action for members to talk with their healthcare providers about when they need to begin screening. BCBS encourages members to have at least one checkup a year and coverage is $0 or very low cost on most health plans. He stated that this was a good opportunity for providers to make sure their patients were up to date on immunizations. He went on to say that BCBS was working to address key risk factors and launched a strategy in 2023 to improve factors that lead to poor birth and maternal health outcomes and to boost medication adherence rates for patients with diabetes and high blood pressure.

Lastly, Dr. Simon stated that BCBS is committed to the community and has been recognized over the past 5 years among Civic 50. He stated that employees at BCBS had volunteered more than 45K hours and donated $3 million+ in 2023. He provided the membership with the link with some websites and digital resources that physicians can give to their patients to learn more about conditions and resources that are available at BCBS. He thanked the membership for allowing him to present and took questions.

Dr. Liles thanked Dr. Simon for presenting.

INTRODUCTION OF THE GUEST SPEAKER - GARY LEROY, MD, FAAFP - AMERICAN BOARD OF FAMILY MEDICINE

Dr. Liles gave an overview of Dr. Gary LeRoy stating he is currently the Senior Vice President for Diplomate Engagement of the American Board of Family Medicine. Dr. LeRoy is an associate professor of Family Medicine at Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine (Dayton, Ohio). He served as the Associate Dean of Student Affairs and Admissions for 14 years (2008-2022). Dr. LeRoy is a native Daytonian, received his undergraduate (1982) and M.D. (1988) degrees from Wright State University and completed his residency at Miami Valley Hospital (Dayton, Ohio). He completed a fellowship at Michigan State University in 1992. Dr. LeRoy's major affiliations include serving on the Board of Directors for the American Academy of Family Physicians, Dayton Levitt Pavilion, East End Community Center, WestCare Ohio, and The Dayton Contemporary Dance Company. He is also a past board chair of The Dayton Foundation, Public Health Dayton/Montgomery County, and Hospice of Dayton. He serves as the Chief Medical Consultant for the City of Dayton Schools. Dr. LeRoy is the Past-President and Board Chair of the American Academy of Family Physicians. He is also an active member of the Ohio State Medical Association, the American Medical Association, the Ohio Academy of Family Physicians (Past President), and the Phi Rho Sigma Medical Society (Vice President). In addition, Dr. LeRoy is a board-certified family physician, providing comprehensive medical care at Community Health Centers of Greater Dayton, a federally qualified health center. Dr LeRoy's practice is at the East Dayton Health Center where he served as medical director from 1998-2008. He has provided health care services for the Dayton community for 30 years. Dr. Liles proudly welcomed Dr. Gary LeRoy.

ADDRESS OF THE GUEST SPEAKER - GARY LEROY, MD, FAAFP - AMERICAN BOARD OF FAMILY MEDICINE

Why ABFM Board Certification?

Dr. LeRoy thanked the members for allowing him to present and giving an update on the certification changes at the American Board of Family Medicine. He stated that as physicians, we are all working for the same purpose to optimize the health and the health care of all the individuals, the families and the communities that we serve. He informed the members that the components of the ABFM board certification are about integrity, professionalism and doing lifelong learning. It is a commitment a physician makes toward demonstrating that they have continued to learn and practice at a higher standard. The components of board certification include professionalism, self-assessment and lifelong learning, exam and performance improvement.

He stated that currently most physicians are under a traditional ten year – three stage certification pathway and that the ABFM was moving to a 5-year cycle beginning in 2025. He informed the members that the ABFM was moving to this change to meet the American Board of Medical Specialties' Standards for Continuing Certification of assessing physicians in more frequent intervals, to help maintain awareness of increasingly rapid medical advances and changes in practice guidelines and to simplify the continuous certification process so that is more flexible and convenient for physicians. He stated that to meet the ABMS requirements, ABFM will launch the five-year cycle on January 1, 2025. He stated that the existing 10-year commitments would be honored. Starting in 2025, the longitudinal assessment will be at the core and that physicians would never need to take the one-day exam again. He went on to say that the other activities would continue, allowing more time to complete (5 years) and for physicians to choose the activities most relevant to their practice. He encouraged the members to check their ABFM portfolio to see their certification schedule or if they had questions. The fees will remain the same in 2025 and would not change with the changes in the certification process. Dr. LeRoy went on to say that every ABFM Diplomate would be enrolled in the new 5-Year Cycle when their next exam requirement is due and that the ABFM would honor a physicians current 10-year exam requirement and that a physician would not be required to transition until their next exam requirement is due.

Dr. LeRoy stated that under the new plan and taking an exam, a physician would answer 25 quarterly exam questions (Or opt for the traditional, one-day exam in your 4th year.). With regards to certification activities, a physician could earn 60 certification points by completing self-assessment and performance improvement activities. He stated that physicians would need to complete 200 hours of continuing medical education and maintain their medical license and continuously

comply with ABFM's Professionalism Guidelines. He stated that about a third of our diplomats are in the longitudinal assessment and data shows that 99% of them are reporting that the questions being asked are relevant to what they are doing as family physicians and 92% said that it's less text test anxiety. He informed the members that these changes were made after surveying current diplomats, residents and residency directors who felt that this would be easier for physicians to obtain certification and that it provided more flexibility, more time. Dr. LeRoy then took questions.

INTRODUCTION OF THE GUEST SPEAKER – STERLING RANSONE, MD, FAAFP - AAFP BOARD REPRESENTATIVE

Dr. Liles then went on to introduce the next speaker and stated that each year we have a representative from the AAFP that comes and provides updates on the national academy. She stated that the AAFP represents over one hundred and thirty thousand physicians, including most of us and medical students nationwide. She introduced the national representative Dr. Sterling Ranson, MD, FAAFP. She informed the assembly that Dr. Ransone was a family physician from Deltaville, Virginia who previously served one year as the board chair, president and president elect of the American Academy of Family Physicians. As chair of the board of the AAFP, Ransone advocated on behalf of family physicians and patients across the country to inspire positive changes in the U.S. health care system. Ransone is a third-generation family physician and has practiced rural medicine for more than 25 years. He currently serves as the physician practice director at Riverside Fishing Bay Family Practice in Deltaville. In addition to his office practice, Ransone is an associate clinical professor of family medicine and population health at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond. He previously held the role of chief resident of family medicine at Riverside Family Medicine Center in Newport News, Virginia. He volunteers as the football and soccer team physician at Mathews High School in Mathews County, Virginia.

A member of the AAFP since 1995, Ransone was a Virginia delegate to the AAFP's Congress of Delegates for 10 years. Prior to becoming an officer of the AAFP, he served on multiple AAFP committees and commissions, including the Commission on Governmental Advocacy and the Reference Committee on Advocacy, for which he held the position of chair for two years. He also served as a member of the Commission on Membership and Member Services and as liaison to the Commissions on Continuing Professional Development, and Health of the Public and Science, and Quality and Practice. At the state level, Ransone has served the Virginia Academy of Family Physicians in various leadership roles including chapter president, vice president and board chair. He also established FamDocPAC, the Virginia Academy's political action committee and served as its first leader.

Ransone earned his Bachelor of Science and Master of Arts degrees in biology from the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia. He earned his medical degree from the Medical College of Virginia of Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond. He completed his internship and residency at the Riverside Family Practice Center in Newport News. He is board certified by the American Board of Family Medicine and has the AAFP Degree of Fellow, an earned degree awarded to family physicians for distinguished service and continuing medical education.

Dr. Liles proudly welcomed Dr. Sterling Ransone.

ADDRESS OF THE GUEST SPEAKER – STERLING RANSONE, MD, FAAFP - AAFP BOARD REPRESENTATIVE

Dr. Ransone thanked the members for the opportunity to present to the General Assembly and stated that he brings greetings from the board of directors of the American Academy of Family Physicians. He informed the assembly that he practices in a little rural area in Virginia, where his father and grandfather practiced, making him a third-generation physician. He gave the members a history of how he became a physician and the importance of getting involved in organized medicine. Dr. Ransone gave background on how the AAFP was formed and has been in existence for over 75 years.

He stated that on June 10th, 1947, at the American Medical Association meeting in New Jersey, a group of general practitioners got together who had served in the war. When they came back home, a lot of their hospitals started not allowing physicians to work or perform procedures that they were able to perform on service members. This group of physicians formed the American Academy of General Practice what is known as the AAFP today. Dr. Ransone stated that

he felt this was ironic due to the specialty of family medicine continually having to fight daily and having been doing so for over 75 years.

Membership

Dr. Ransone showed the members the trends in membership from 2007 – 2022 and how the membership continued to grow until the pandemic. He stated that active membership had continued to grow but that student membership had declined. He went on to talk about the changes in the way that students went through medical school during the pandemic and that he felt that student membership was where the AAFP needed to engage. The AAFP has currently has about 130,000 members now across the country and that number has increased each year over the past five years. He gave an update on membership for Louisiana, stating that the LAFP currently has 1890 members with 862 active, 6 inactive, 116 life, 200 residents, 691 students and 5 supporting members. He went on to say that in 2024 it was the largest match ever for family medicine. There were nearly 800 family medicine residency programs that offered positions and that they offered more than any other specialty with at fill rate of 88%. There were 5,231 residency positions offered, and 4,595 applicants matched into family medicine. Family medicine represented 12.8% of all US students or graduates matched in 2024. He stated that this still was not enough to meet the needs of this country, but that the numbers continue to go in the right direction. He informed the assembly that to continue to get students to go into family medicine, we must continue to influence medical students, going from interest to choice. He pointed out the allopathic schools are not graduating primary care physicians and that students are going into internal medicine where only 9% of them are practicing primary care. Dr. Ransone stated that he felt that this was due to the funding that is provided to medical schools for primary care. States should start putting pressure on their legislators and educate them that the funding is not going to take care of patients in their communities with primary care physicians.

He stated that they were seeing a significant increase in the number of members who are employed (74%) and 92% of new physicians are employed. Members that are employed, 55% are employed by health systems or very large physician groups and 78% work in ambulatory clinical practice. About 11% of our members are sole owners of their practice, between 4 and 6% are DPC practices, 11% are partial owners and about 4% of people aren't practicing clinically at all. The number of members who are DO's is 29% and of the total active membership, 48% are female and 51% are doctors of osteopathy. He stated that with the new physician membership, 28% are female and 47% are DO's. He stated that 11% of members own their practice. He went on to say that 78% of the membership work in ambulatory clinical practice setting and 53% of the membership works in one type of clinical practice setting.

AAFP Strategic plan

Dr. Ranson went on to discuss the priorities of the AAFP and are determined by the membership surveys completed. The Academy focuses its efforts on a set of strategic priorities through the strategic plan set by the Board of Directors. He stated that the top five priorities have been pretty much the same for the last several years. He stated that the top priorities included to reduce administrative and regulatory burden, advocate for models valuing primary care, increase overall payment, protect family physicians' interests with non-physician providers and help to maintain board certification. He displayed the current AAFP strategic plan through 2025 and discussed the vision, mission and value statement.

Workforce

Dr. Ransone discussed the physician workforce and the need for reform for improved slots for family physicians. In the match data from this most recent match, for the first time, more DO's matched than MDS. There has been a rapid expansion of osteopathic medical schools. The AAFP continues to try to strengthen the pathway of family physicians to care for patients and communities. Programs are available, beginning as early as high school, to identify students with an interest in medicine. If physicians come from the communities where they live, they are more likely to go back and practice and serve in these communities. Dr. Ransone discussed the strategic plan with the members for 2023-2025.

Lastly, he informed the assembly about FMX that would be held in Phoenix, AZ on September 24-28, 2024, and stated that the early bird rate was still available for those who wanted to register to attend. Dr. Ransone thanked the assembly for allowing him to be there and opened the floor for any questions. Dr. Anderson informed the assembly that Dr. Ransone would be around the afternoon for any questions, comments, concerns or thoughts.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Follow Up Actions Taken From the 2023 General Assembly

Dr. Anderson stated that a report was being presented from the LAFP Board of Directors regarding action of resolutions that were passed during the 2023 General Assembly that was outstanding. The report was as follows:

Louisiana Academy of Family Physicians 2023 General Assembly Action Grid – As of December, 2023		
Resolutions	**Approved Action:**	**Action Taken**
RESOLUTION 1: INDEPENDENT PRACTICE	That the Louisiana Academy Family Physicians create a time limited task force charged by the LAFP Board of Directors to study the feasibility and initiate strategies for independent and independent practice advisory group for the express purpose to assist physicians with their efforts to start an independent practice and or enter and sustain a successful employed practice.	That the LAFP Board of Directors create a task force and assign doctors Karl Hanson Mark Dawson, to head it up for the creation of a toolbox to be placed on the LAFP website and provide a report back at the next assembly. **ONGOING** - Dr. Hanson and Dr. Dawson have submitted information for the toolbox and revisions have been made to the LAFP website. The taskforce needs to schedule a meeting and will report back to the assembly in 2025.
RESOLUTION 2: PRIMARY CARE OUTPUT BY STATE MEDICAL SCHOOLS	That the General Assembly refer Resolution 2: Primary care output by state medical schools to the LAFP Board of Directors.	That the LAFP Board of Directors refer the work of the second resolved in Resolution 2 to the LAFP Legislative and Advocacy Committee to possibly draft a study resolution during the legislative session. **ONGOING** - The Legislative Committee reviewed the resolution and would look at possibly filing a resolution in a non-fiscal year.
RESOLUTION 3: OPPOSITION TO PARTICIPATION IN THE	That the General Assembly approve Resolution 3: Opposition to participation in	**ONGOING** - The LAFP will continue to advocate and support legislation that will get

PRIOR AUTHORIZATION PROCESS	the prior authorization process and that the LAFP opposes any imposition of the prior authorization process which transfers that duty from the payor to the family medicine physician.	rid of the prior authorization process.
RESOLUTION 4: PATIENT TRANSFER OF CARE	That the Louisiana Academy of Family Physicians endorses the practice and appropriate legislation, which provides a mechanism for that continuity at the patient's discretion. That the second resolve of Resolution 4 be referred to the LAFP Board of Directors and/or Legislative and Advocacy Committee to draft language and report back to the assembly next year.	**ONGOING** – The Legislative and Advocacy Committee will support any legislation that is filed during a legislative session that promotes transparency in health care for patients and opposes any legislation or interference in the physician patient relationship.
RESOLUTION 5: VACCINE TESTING	Failed to be adopted	
RESOLUTION 6: DUES INCREASE	Approved $50 increase	$30 was applied to 2024 dues and $20 will be applied to 2025 dues

NEW BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF 2023 GENERAL ASSEMBLY 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 JULY 21, 2023 MEETING MINUTES BE APPROVED AS WRITTEN. THE MOTION CARRIED.

BYLAWS TASKFORCE REPORT

Dr. Anderson informed the Assembly that a Bylaws Taskforce Report had been submitted for approval and directed the membership to that report for discussion. He stated that the LAFP Board of Directors met and discussed changing the terms of office for the President, President-elect and Vice-President to a two-year term to more efficiently conduct the business of the LAFP. He informed the assembly that the Board approved this consideration and would need amendments to the LAFP Bylaws. He stated that the slate of nominees this year reflects the willingness of all three people in those present positions to be reelected for another year to complete a two-year term and the change would not go in effect until 2025. Dr. Anderson informed the assembly that there was nothing in the current bylaws that prohibit someone running from one year to the next, so the LAFP would not be in violation for putting the same people forth this year on the ballot as we did last year. He informed the assembly that the Bylaws Task Force was a standing committee of the LAFP made up of members from the Executive Committee that exists to review the bylaws every year and make sure that they are up to date and make changes if necessary. The Assembly reviewed the report and discussed the changes.

Dr. Karl Hanson asked if there were examples of why it takes the administration to get up to speed or examples of where something has not been able to be accomplished because of the one-year turnover. Dr. Anderson asked if anyone from the current leadership would like to speak and spoke on his tenure as president. He stated that many state academies are moving to a two-year term.

Dr. Jody George stated that based on personal conversations and practical knowledge in leadership, it takes time for resolutions and legislation to move through the process and by the time tasks and directives move up the ladder, the president is going out of office. To have a continuum of the vision of the LAFP and accomplish what we are trying to do as a body, it makes sense that the LAFP extend its terms. This would allow for a continuum in leadership and hold accountable those in these positions. Dr. George also brought up the advocacy efforts of the Board of Directors and how an election year can impact legislation because it will take some time to educate the legislators and the legislative body.

Dr. Richard Bridges stated that in the past few years the LAFP has challenged the presidents to stop thinking small and to start having bigger ideas. And unfortunately, those bigger ideas just take longer to get done. As an example, Dr. Shaw has ideas in which he wants to change funding obtained for education and hiring faculty. This will take a lot of work at the state capital and can only be done during a fiscal session which occurs every other year.

Dr. Karl Hanson stated that he felt like this was more of a process issue and that if a president serves two years, there could be a gap when the president role is handed over to his/her successor. He went on to say that he felt that what was occurring now could still happen regardless of if it was a one- or two-year term. Dr. Hanson suggested that the internal processes be examined for continuity and should not be dependent on who is the president.

With there being no further comments, Dr. Anderson stated that the assembly would now vote on the task force report. The following motion was made:

THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY APPROVE THE BYLAWS TASKFORCE REPORT. THE MOTION CARRIED.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS AND LATE RESOLUTIONS

Dr. Anderson announced there were four resolutions submitted prior to the deadline. Without further comment, he proceeded with the Resolutions for the Assembly's consideration:

RESOLUTION 1: ABFM MISINFORMATION DISINFORMATION POLICIES
Submitted by: Karl Hanson

Dr. Anderson read Resolution No 1: ABFM Misinformation Disinformation Policies and stated that Resolution 1 was submitted by Dr. Karl Hanson.

> **RESOLVED**, that the LAFP adopt a policy stating that physicians have a protected First Amendment right to free speech; and further be it
>
> **RESOLVED**, that the LAFP oppose any action by the ABFM to censor, discipline or decertify physicians based on the ABFM disagreeing with the opinion of that physician; and further be it
>
> **RESOLVED**, that the LAFP opposes the ABFM Professionalism Committee from determining what is information communicated by any physician is false, inaccurate, misleading, misinformation or disinformation.

Dr. Anderson then asked if Dr. Hanson had any additional comments and for him to state his intent for this resolution.

Dr. Karl Hanson informed the assembly that he was bringing this resolution in the spirit of freedom of speech and autonomy. He stated, "I'm opposed to censorship, and I do not grant certifying bodies the authority to define truth for me. I seek truth as it orients to what I think is best for patient care. I prefer to lead and not to follow. My patients expect that of me. Our patients expect that of us. The ABFM once was known as a body that administered our certification exams and oversaw our CME. They had policies that would initiate decertification procedures on doctors who violated certain trusts. They have expanded their punitive scope well beyond what is acceptable. I have been decertified by the American Board of Family Medicine not for inappropriate behavior with a patient, not for practicing under the influence, not for malpractice, not for failing to keep up with education, maintain a license, nothing of the sort. I have been decertified because the American Board of Family Medicine Professionalism Committee has deemed that I have spread misinformation about the treatment of Covid very early in Covid April 2020, I was vocally against mask lockdowns and the like. I aggressively treated with medications and have had zero mortality, with only one ER visit in my entire patient population. But my position against the hastily rolled out Covid shots was more than the ABFM could take. In September of 2021, the ABFM endorsed a statement by the federal State Board of Medical Examiners about policy about policing misinformation. Then one year later, the ABFM revised their policies. ABFM labeled me as a Covid 19 vaccine denigrator, quote unquote, in August of 2023. The ABFM failed to show where anything I stated was factually incorrect. No examples. Even if I had stated something on social media that turned out not to be true. The ABFM has no moral authority to take action to police me, coerce me into silence, or threaten me with decertification. The ABFM was silent on all the factually incorrect statements made by the CDC and pharmaceutical companies. Yet the ABFM decided to wield their hammer on me. They wanted to silence a practitioner of 37 years who disagreed with their party line. As my resolution asks, it is my request that the Louisiana Academy of Family Physicians take a position that any of us physicians may speak out on topics without intimidation or action by the ABFM who pretends to be the arbiter of truth."

Dr. Bryan Picou stated that he was speaking on behalf of the board, where they discussed the resolution and felt that though they respected the spirit of the resolution, they could not fully support the resolution. He stated that the board felt they could support the resolution if it was simplified and stated that the LAFP supports physicians First Amendment right for free speech, and not establish any sort of LAFP policy that limits a physician's ability to free speech.

Dr. Donnie Batie from Baton Rouge spoke in support of the resolution and asked that the assembly consider voting on the resolves separately to address the issues of concern by the LAFP Board of Directors. The following motion was made and voted on by the assembly:

MOTION

THAT THE RESOLVES FOR RESOLUTION 1 BE SPLIT AND VOTED ON BY THE ASSEMBLY SEPARATELY. THE MOTION CARRIED.

Dr. Anderson reread the first resolved to the Assembly. Resolved, that the LAFP adopt a policy stating that physicians have a protected First Amendment right to free speech. He stated that was what was on the table for discussion and asked if any of the members of the assembly had any further discussion.

Dr. Oanh Truong stated that she was representing herself and felt that physicians have a First Amendment right to speech. However, she felt that with the position of being a physician, physicians have a responsibility for being mindful of what they are saying and what they represent. She stated that physicians are not just representing themselves as an individual, but professional and a respected person in their community. She went on to say that when talking about truth, people think when there are different opinions that it means there are different truths and that when physicians are going through research and data, and they disagree it doesn't mean there is a difference of truth or opinion.

Dr. Anderson clarified for the assembly what it means for the LAFP to adopt a policy. He stated that the LAFP has a policy manual and that when a policy is adopted the exact resolved would become policy of the LAFP that physicians have a

protected First Amendment right, as opposed to when it comes up and it says, resolved, that the LAFP oppose any action. He stated that there is a difference between adopting a policy and opposing something. Dr. Anderson then informed the assembly that they would vote on the first resolved:

THAT THE LAFP ADOPT A POLICY STATING THAT PHYSICIANS HAVE A PROTECTED FIRST AMENDMENT RIGHT TO FREE SPEECH.

The first resolved was adopted.

Dr. Anderson read the second resolved to the Assembly. Resolved, that the LAFP oppose any action by the ABFM to censor, discipline, or decertify physicians based on the ABFM disagreeing with the opinion of that physician. He asked if anyone had further discussion on the second resolved to go to the microphone.

Dr. Chris Van Hise from New Orleans stated that he was speaking on behalf of himself in opposition to this resolved. He felt that the LAFP should not be supporting a statement saying that LAFP should stand behind a physician who loses their ABFM certification for any reason that's not yet stated. He felt that even though it was the physician's opinion that a patient be treated a certain way, by adopting this resolved it would require the LAFP to support any physician under these circumstances. He went on to say that the LAFP needs to evaluate every situation with its own individual merit and should not get involved in this issue.

Dr. Rick Streiffer from New Orleans stated that he was unsure of the process or the criteria that can lead to a physician being decertified. He felt that the assembly did not have enough information, and that the Academy owes one of its members who feels that action has been taken inappropriately to investigate and fully understand the situation before the LAFP takes action one way or the other. Dr. Streiffer stated that he was opposed to this resolved and possibly the president or executive committee of the LAFP should appoint a small task force with neutrality to get more information on what happened, the ABFM's policy and the process of decertification.

Dr. Karl Hanson informed the assembly that he was continuing to pursue this issue on his own and was litigating through the courts. He went on to say that the Fifth Circuit has already ruled in the middle of June of last year, that these organizations do not have a right to dismiss before it goes to court. He stated that it was the ABFM's opinion in contradiction to his assertions or opinion. It's simply that the ABFM is disagreeing with my opinion, and I do not think that the LAFP should support their opinion. He went on to say that he did not feel there was a need to develop a task force.

Dr. Anderson asked if there was any other discussion and seeing none, the assembly voted on the second resolved of Resolution 1.

RESOLVED, **THAT THE LAFP OPPOSE ANY ACTION BY THE ABFM TO CENSOR, DISCIPLINE OR DECERTIFY PHYSICIANS BASED ON THE ABFM DISAGREEING WITH THE OPINION OF THAT PHYSICIAN.**

The second resolved was not adopted.

Dr. Anderson read the third resolved to the Assembly. Resolved, that the LAFP opposes the ABFM Professionalism Committee from determining what is information communicated by any physician is false, inaccurate, misleading, misinformation or disinformation. He asked if anyone had further discussion on the third resolved to go to the microphone.

Dr. Jim Taylor from. Zachary, LA spoke in support of the resolved. He informed the assembly that he was the current LAFP nominee to the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (LSBME) and based off of his six years of experience on the

board, the determinations of what is described here as unprofessional conduct is something that should be left to the LSBME and the individual state or the Federation of State and Medical Boards, which is the overlying governing body for state medical boards. He went on to say in his opinion, the ABFM is outside of its purview in this case. He felt that the ABFM should only be handling certification.

Dr. Streiffer stated that he disagreed with the opinion of Dr. Taylor but that he agreed that it was the role of the licensing board to look at professionalism issues of member of people who are licensed as physicians and act appropriately regarding their license to practice in Louisiana. He stated that he also felt that it was totally within the right of any certifying board that is not providing a license to practice but is providing board certification a different type of credential to examine professionalism with regard to that certification. He went on to say that he was a bit alarmed to hear that there's an ability for the ABFM to decertify a physician and something like this could affect any physician and felt that he could not support this resolved without knowing that information.

Dr. Donnie Batie stated that he felt he could not support or oppose this resolved and made a motion to refer the third resolved to the LAFP Board of Directors to investigate the issue and provide a report with their recommendation to the General Assembly next year. He stated that he felt this was a critical issue and that a decision whether to support this resolved should not be made today.

Dr. Anderson stated that the resolved would have to be changed and a motion would need to be made to have the resolved tabled. The following motion was made and voted on by the assembly:

MOTION

THAT THE THIRD RESOLVED OF RESOLUTION 1 BE TABLED AND REFERRED TO THE LAFP BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO INVESTIGATE THE ISSUE AND PROVIDE A REPORT WITH THEIR RECOMMENDATION TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN 2025. THE MOTION CARRIED.

Dr. Anderson asked for any discussion on tabling third resolved and referring it to the LAFP Board of Directors for further investigation and discussion by the board requiring a report back to the Assembly next year.

Dr. Nichole George stated that she was in support of tabling the third resolved and referral to the board based off the need for more information on what this will mean for the LAFP if they choose to support or not support. Dr. Hanson asked for clarification on what had been proposed on the floor. Dr. Anderson stated that the question had been called for the third resolved and instead of voting up or down, the resolved would now go for further investigation, clarification and a report with a recommendation on what to do with this from the board for next year. Dr. Hanson stated that this case was still under active appeal and may progress depending on its position to further legal action, including court proceedings. He stated he was opposed to this being tabled and referred to the LAFP Board of Directors and did not mean for the board to have to get involved in his case. Dr. Anderson asked was there any other discussion and then called for a vote on the following motion:

MOTION

THAT THE THIRD RESOLVED OF RESOLUTION 1 BE TABLED AND REFERRED TO THE LAFP BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO GATHER MORE INFORMATION AND PROVIDE A REPORT WITH THEIR RECOMMENDATION TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN 2025. THE MOTION CARRIED.

RESOLUTION 2: INDEPENDENCE FROM GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY
Submitted by: Karl Hanson

Dr. Casey read Resolution No 2: Independence from Government Authority and stated that Resolution 2 was submitted by Dr. Karl Hanson.

> **RESOLVED**, that LAFP adopt a policy stating that no physician in Louisiana shall be required to follow or obey Centers for Disease Control nor Food and Drug Administration guidelines or mandates.

Dr. Anderson then asked if Dr. Hanson had any additional comments and for him to state his intent for this resolution.

Dr. Karl Hanson stated that over the course of these past few years, there has been pressure placed on physicians and various entities to follow Center for Disease Control (CDC) and Food and Drug Administration (FDA) guidelines. He stated that he felt that the LAFP needed to clarify or adopt a policy stating that the LAFP was under no obligation to follow CDC guidelines on how physicians take care of their patients and should not interfere in the physician-patient relationship.

Dr. Anderson asked if there was any other discussion and seeing none, the Assembly would move to voting on Resolution 2. The resolution was then voted on by the General Assembly:

> **THAT THE THAT LAFP ADOPT A POLICY STATING THAT NO PHYSICIAN IN LOUISIANA SHALL BE REQUIRED TO FOLLOW OR OBEY CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL NOR FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION GUIDELINES OR MANDATES. THE MOTION FAILED.**

The resolution was not adopted.

RESOLUTION 3: OPPOSITION TO MONETARY INCENTIVES FOR THERAPEUTICS
Submitted by: Karl Hanson

Dr. Anderson read Resolution No 3: Opposition to Monetary Incentives for Therapeutics and stated that Resolution 3 was submitted by Dr. Karl Hanson.

> **RESOLVED**, the LAFP opposes the monetary incentivization, beyond the contracted reimbursement, of physicians to recommend and administer therapeutics including medications and immunizations.

Dr. Anderson then asked if Dr. Hanson had any additional comments and for him to state his intent for this resolution.

Dr. Karl Hanson stated that over the last few years, physicians have been incentivized to provide, specifically Covid vaccinations. Physicians would receive a reimbursement administration fee through an incentive program based off the number of doses given, the number of patients vaccinated and if a physician met certain benchmarks. He went on to say that he felt that this was creating physicians to be bribed into providing a therapeutic that possibly the physician does not have a good, informed consent. He felt that it was wrong for companies to incentivize physicians with bonus payments for administering a therapeutic and was a violation of their objectivity and neutrality and appeared improper.

Dr. Richard Bridges spoke on behalf of the LAFP Board of Directors and stated that the board did not feel it could support or oppose this resolution based on the lack of information.

Dr. Jim Taylor stated that he understands the ethical concerns by offering incentives and bonus payments. However, he felt that physicians are offered several other incentives every day for doing things like making sure that patients get colonoscopies, pap smears, cholesterol screenings and that sort of thing. Physicians have the right to say no and turn down incentive payments if we do not feel it is ethical. He stated that he felt that the LAFP would be opposed if there was a situation where a physician did not provide these services and they began to receive deductions from their reimbursement and outside of their contract. Dr. Taylor stated he was opposed to the resolution.

Dr. Anderson asked if there was any other discussion and seeing none, the Assembly would move to voting on Resolution 3. The resolution was then voted on by the General Assembly:

> **THAT THE LAFP OPPOSES THE MONETARY INCENTIVIZATION, BEYOND THE CONTRACTED REIMBURSEMENT, OF PHYSICIANS TO RECOMMEND AND ADMINISTER THERAPEUTICS INCLUDING MEDICATIONS AND IMMUNIZATIONs. THE MOTION FAILED.**

The resolution was not adopted.

RESOLUTION 4: INTERNATIONAL MANDATES IN MEDICAL PRACTICE
Submitted by: Karl Hanson

Dr. Casey read Resolution No 4: International Mandates in Medical Practice and stated that Resolution 4 was submitted by Dr. Karl Hanson.

> **RESOLVED**, that LAFP adopt a policy stating that no rule, regulation, fee, tax policy, or mandate of any kind of the World Health Organization, United Nations, and the World Economic Forum shall be enforced or implemented by the state of Louisiana or any agency, department, board, commission, political subdivision, governmental entity of the state, parish, municipality, or any other political entity.

Dr. Anderson then asked if Dr. Hanson had any additional comments and for him to state his intent for this resolution.

Dr. Karl Hanson stated that over the course of these past few years, there has been pressure placed on physicians and various entities to follow the World Health Organization, United Nations, and the World Economic Forum guidelines. He stated that he felt that the LAFP needed to clarify or adopt a policy stating that the LAFP was under no rule, regulation, fee, tax policy, or mandate of any kind to follow World Health Organization, United Nations, and the World Economic Forum guidelines on how physicians take care of their patients and should not interfere in the physician-patient relationship.

Dr. Jody George spoke on behalf of the LAFP Board of Directors and stated that the board was opposed to this resolution. He stated that recently Senator Thomas Pressly had passed legislation that included the same language as this resolution and is now current law. Dr. Anderson asked if there was any other discussion and seeing none, the Assembly would move to voting on Resolution 4. The resolution was then voted on by the General Assembly:

> **THAT THAT LAFP ADOPT A POLICY STATING THAT NO RULE, REGULATION, FEE, TAX POLICY, OR MANDATE OF ANY KIND OF THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION, UNITED NATIONS, AND THE WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM SHALL BE ENFORCED OR IMPLEMENTED BY THE STATE OF LOUISIANA OR ANY AGENCY, DEPARTMENT, BOARD, COMMISSION, POLITICAL SUBDIVISION, GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY OF THE STATE, PARISH, MUNICIPALITY, OR ANY OTHER POLITICAL ENTITY. THE MOTION FAILED.**

The resolution was not adopted.

INTRODUCTION OF PAST PRESIDENTS

Dr. Anderson went on to acknowledge the LAFP Past Presidents by asking them to stand.

INTRODUCTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Dr. Anderson asked for members who served on a committee to stand for recognition. He stated that the Academy could not do its work without the specific committees and thanked them for everything that they had done on the committees over the past year.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT – RAGAN LEBLANC

Dr. Anderson asked for a report from the Executive Vice President. Mrs. LeBlanc stated that she did not have anything additional to report from what was included in her written report.

REPORT OF OFFICERS

Dr. Anderson stated that all the officer's reports were included in the General Assembly Handbook and asked if any of the officers had anything additional to add and to come to the microphone. He stated that the reports included all the work in your Academy over the past year and encouraged all members to take the time to read the reports.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

RESIDENT AND STUDENT LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

Dr. Anderson stated that a written report was submitted and included in the handbook.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Dr. Anderson stated that a written report was submitted and included in the handbook. He asked Dr. Zach Pray if he had anything additional to add.

LEGISLATIVE & ADVOCACY COMMITTEE – RICHARD BRIDGES, MD

Dr. Anderson stated that a written report was submitted and included in the handbook by the committee chair. Dr. Richard Bridges informed the Board that the Committee on Legislative and Membership Issues met continuously over the past year via conference. He then gave an overview of the 2024 legislative session and thanked Mapes & Mapes for all their hard work. He thanked Ragan for always supporting the LAFP and Lee Ann for taking care of the first aid station. Lastly, he thanked everyone who volunteered as doctor of the day.

Dr. Bridges then provided a report on several bills that were of particular interest for the LAFP. Dr. Bridges stated that ACT 273 (SB 468) passed and will impact all physicians. The legislation will prohibit employers from enforcing noncompete clauses upon primary care physicians; defined as a physician who predominantly practices general family medicine, general internal medicine, general pediatrics, general obstetrics, or general gynecology after three years. It will also prohibit enforcement of noncompete clauses upon all other physicians after five years, depending upon respective contracts. Relative to "evergreen" contracts, as they auto renew after January 1, 2025, the three-year (primary care) and five year (specialists) time frames begin. Thus, upon renewal, once the applicable time frame runs, an employer will no longer be able to enforce a non-compete clause against the physician. As a note, ACT 273 applies to all entities including non-profit organizations. The FTC ruling is being challenged relative to the Commissions' jurisdiction and authority over non-profit organizations.

Dr. Bridges stated that HB 579 by Rep. McMahen was a bill that the LAFP fought most on. As originally filed the bill would have allowed pharmacists to utilize a statewide protocol developed by the Board of Pharmacy to initiate therapy, dispense PrEP and PEP, order lab tests and more in efforts to offer access to medications for HIV prevention. While no one opposed increasing the access to PrEP and PEP medications, the mechanism created did not meet the standards of care that would be expected by physicians or other healthcare providers. Rep. McMahen worked with every stakeholder to address concerns associated with legislation and ultimately accepted amendments offered by the Louisiana Department of Health to better craft a piece of legislation that enables the Department to promulgate rules surrounding the dispensing of PrEP and PEP through a pharmacy without a prescription and with appropriate follow-up requirements for a patient.

ACT 205 (HB 193) was introduced by Rep. Chris Turner will now require a pharmacy to transfer a prescription to another pharmacy at the request of the patient. With the enactment of the legislation, the transfer is also now authorized for controlled dangerous substances in conformity with federal regulation.

HB 869 was introduced by Rep. Tammy Phelps will require Louisiana physicians and physician assistants practicing emergency medicine will be required to take a one-hour CME course on the treatment of sickle cell disease followed by a refresher every three years. The course is to be made available by the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners.

Lastly, Dr. Bridges informed the Assembly that there were over 1,000 bills filed this past session and that the LAFP could not be successful without the help of its members. He stated that when the LAFP was fighting the pharmacy bill and sent out a voter voice with a call to action, that this message went out to over 1,900 members and that only 41 members responded. He urged the participation of the members to respond to the messages that they receive from the LAFP and for them to continue to donate to the PAC.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE – JODY GEORGE, MD

Dr. Anderson stated that a written report was submitted and included in the handbook. He stated that overall LAFP membership remains strong and positive. He encouraged members that if they had not renewed, and to encourage any of their colleagues to also renew.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE – BRYAN PICOU, MD

Ragan LeBlanc provided the report on the finances over the past year. She stated that the current LAFP financials including the 2023 Profit Loss Statement, 2024 Profit Loss Statement and current account holdings were included in the meeting packet. The LAFP ended 2023 with a profit of **$47,004.36.**

She stated that as of 7/01/2023 we have the following balances in our operating and investment accounts:

- **LAFP Academy**
  As of 7/01/2024 the Academy had **$487,420.83** cash on hand. Therefore, the Academy is currently in sound financial shape.
- **LAFP Foundation**
  The Foundation had **$86,009.68** on hand as of 7/01/2024.
- **LaFamPac**
  LaFamPac had **$62,900.40** on hand as of 7/01/2024.

The LAFP has a total of **$636,330.91** on hand to support operations through the remainder of the year.

She informed the members that the audit has not been done yet this year. She informed the Assembly that she thought that the financials otherwise looked good and that there were no major concerns at that time and that if anyone had any questions, please see her during the meeting.

MATCH DATA

Dr. Rick Streiffer provided a report on the match data for 2024. He thanked Dr. Ransone for his comments earlier on the importance of primary care to the efficiency and effectiveness of the work in a health system, and to the outcomes of the population's health. He stated that the more primary care, the better a health system is going to perform, and the better the population's health is going to be and cost will be contained. He stated that producing primary care physicians in the United States is poor and that in a national report produced a few years ago, it was recommended that the United States should strive for 40% of our physician workforce in primary care. The United States is currently somewhere around 25% and has been dropping compared to the other wealthy countries of the world and we are underperforming the rest of the rich countries of the of the world in terms of health outcomes. Louisiana in the United States in terms of health outcomes is very low and at the bottom. There are many reasons that Louisiana is at the bottom of that list. Primary care and the lack of a robust primary care workforce is only one contribution, but it's something that we can influence. Starting back

40 years that we've been following the match in Louisiana. Dr. Streiffer informed the members that the first table shows the entry at match of all medical students in the state of Louisiana in Louisiana medical schools. Since 1981, Louisiana has put 8.9% of the graduates of Louisiana medical schools into family medicine at the time of the match. At this rate, this will not produce enough family physicians in this country. He congratulated VCOM on 20% of its medical students choosing primary care in their first year in the state. The point was made earlier that we are not holding our medical schools accountable for the use of public dollars. We need to hold our schools accountable for what the population needs, which is more family physicians.

Dr. Streiffer went on to discuss Table 2 regarding this year. He stated that this was the worst match in family medicine in the United States in 15 or 16 years and it was not the best match by any means in the State of Louisiana. There were 73 positions offered in the state on and only 77% of them were filled on match day. Of those 73 positions, they were all filled through the scramble or the or the soap, as it's now called. 38 of the students out of 73 are graduates of US medical schools and the others are international graduates. This is another reflection that our state schools are not stepping up to make sure that medical students are going into family medicine.

Lastly, Dr. Streiffer discussed Table 3 and mentioned that there were some issues with getting all the data. He stated that this table would be corrected. He stated that in the state, the medical schools were graduating around 700 medical students and around 10% of them, or about 70 will end up practicing primary care in Louisiana. He stated that the goal for the upcoming year or two was to hold the State of Louisiana and our medical schools accountable, to meet the needs of the population, which is more primary care physicians, especially family physicians and that we will continue to support our residences with locals who will stay and practice here.

Dr. Hanson stated that he had a resolution last year that requested the LAFP index of how much medical schools get paid based on their primary care output. He asked Dr. Streiffer if he felt that was a realistic goal. Dr. Streiffer stated that it is complicated in terms of how medical schools are financed. The state's contribution to medical schools' budget is relatively small. He stated that he was sure that was the best place to leverage but was worth looking at. He stated that there were other things that could be done as well but a comprehensive strategy was needed for addressing this.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE- JODY GEORGE, MD

Dr. George submitted a report with the recommendations for nominations for the LAFP Foundation and the LAFP Academy Board of Directors. Dr. Anderson referred to the nomination slates included in the handbook and read the nominations to the Assembly.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS OF THE LAFP OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dr. Anderson called for any member from the floor interested in making a nomination for any position to make it known at this time. Hearing no additional nominations, the nominations were closed and by acclamation, the slate was approved.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS OF THE LAFP FOUNDATION OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dr. Anderson called for any member from the floor interested in making a nomination for any position to make it known at this time. Hearing none, the nominations were closed and by acclamation, the slate was approved.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS OF THE LAFAMPAC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dr. Anderson called for any member from the floor interested in making a nomination for any position to make it known at this time. Hearing none, the nominations were closed.

Dr. Anderson thanked the Nominating Committee for their hard work in submitting a full slate of nominations.

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. He asked if any of the department chairs had anything to add.

FAMILY MEDICINE RESIDENCY PROGRAM DIRECTOR REPORTS

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

Dr. Lisa Casey stated that she was the program director for the St Tammany Ochsner Program in Covington and that they welcomed their first class on July 1st. She stated that there are currently 12 family medicine residency programs in the state and that 8 of the programs were now part of a residency learning network. She informed the assembly that the network meets quarterly and that there were several subcommittees that meet monthly identifying issues within the residency programs and serves as a way to pool resources and potentially have better learning opportunities.

LAFP FOUNDATION

Dr. Anderson stated that a written report was submitted and is included in the handbook.

2024 FAMILY MEDICINE AWARD WINNERS

Dr. Anderson stated the Family Medicine winners for 2024 are included in the handbook and listed on the LAFP website. The winners are as follows: The E. Edward Martin, Jr., MD Family Medicine Award was presented to Lily Morrison, the Michael O. Fleming MD Family Medicine Award was presented to Stephen Tanner Ward, the LSU-New Orleans Gerald R. Gehringer Family Medicine Award was presented to Mallory Knight Varnado and the Tulane Family Medicine Excellence Award was presented to Bridget Bunda. The Resident Award of Excellence was presented to Danielle Pawlichuk, MD. He congratulated the winners.

LAFAMPAC BOARD – MARGUERITE "CISSY" PICOU, MD

Dr. Anderson stated that a written report was submitted and is included in the handbook by Dr. Cissy Picou, LaFamPac President.

ELECTION RESULTS

The following officers were elected for the 2024-2025 year.

LAFP Board of Directors

President	Vincent Shaw, MD	Baton Rouge
President-Elect	Lisa Casey, MD	New Orleans
Vice President	Richard Bridges, MD	Amite
Secretary	Teri O'Neal, MD	Monroe
Treasurer	Bryan Picou, MD	Natchitoches
Speaker/GA	Derek Anderson, MD	Baton Rouge
Vice Speaker	Lindsay Liles, MD	New Orleans
AAFP Delegate	James Taylor, Jr., MD, FAAFP	Zachary
AAFP Alt. Delegate	Wayne Gravois, MD	Zachary
District 2 Director	Luis Arencibia, MD, FAAFP	Metairie
District 2 - Alternate	Chris Van Hise, MD	New Orleans
District 3A Director	Michael Bacon, MD	Raceland
District 3A Alternate	Camille Pitre, MD	Larose
District 3B Director	Amanda Phillips, MD, FAAFP	Lafayette

District 3B Alternate	Zeb Stearns, MD	Eunice
District 6A Director	Jason Schrock, MD	Baton Rouge
District 6A Alternate	Ubaid Abbasi, MD	Baton Rouge
District Director at Large	Jody George, MD	Lake Charles
District Director at Large Alternate	Dianna Phan, MD	New Orleans
Resident Representative	Alex Robertson, MD	Kenner
Resident Alternate	Saad Hanan, MD	Alexandria
Student Representative	Kacy Henwood	New Orleans
Student Alternate	Landon Waite	Shreveport

Foundation Board of Directors

President	Brian Harrell, MD, FAAFP
President-Elect	Vincent Shaw, MD, FAAFP
Secretary	Jason Schrock, MD
Treasurer	Bryan Picou, MD, FAAFP
Immediate Past President	Kenneth Brown, MD, FAAFP
Lay Member #1	Natalie Maxwell
Lay Member #2	Kathy Prejean
Lay Member #3	Stewart Gordon, MD
Lay Member #4	Katy Braun
Lay Member#5	Shunn P. Phillips, CPA,CHC
LAFP Member #1	Jim Taylor, MD, FAAFP
LAFP Member #2	Nichole George, MD, MPH, FAAFP
LAFP Member #3	Rachael Kermis, MD

LAFAMPAC Board of Directors

President	Marguerite Picou, MD, FAAFP	Natchitoches
Treasurer	Wayne Gravois, MD	Zachary
District 1 Director	James Campbell, MD	New Orleans
District 2 Director	Lindsay Liles, MD	Metairie
District 3ADirector	Michael Bacon, MD	Raceland
District 3B Director	Zeb Stearns, MD	Eunice
District 4 Director	Peter Seidenberg, MD	Shreveport
District 5 Director	M. Tahir Qayyum, MD, FAAFP	Monroe
District 6A Director	James A. Taylor, Jr., MD, FAAFP	Zachary
District 6B Director	Chris Foret, MD, FAAFP	Franklinton
District 7 Director	Jody George, MD	Lake Charles
District 8 Director	Bryan Picou, MD, FAAFP	Natchitoches

The following motion was adopted by unanimous consent of the Assembly:

MOTION (APPROVED)

THAT THE NOMINATIONS SLATE SUBMITTED BY THE NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE FOR THE LAFP FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS, LAFP BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND THE LAFAMPAC BOARD OF DIRECTORS BE APPROVED AS WRITTEN. THE MOTION CARRIED.

ADDITIONAL NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Anderson asked if anyone had any further business or announcements.

Dr. Hanson stated that with regards to some of the problems that physicians are facing as family medicine physicians, he is working with the LAFP to create a private practice task force. He informed the assembly that he was also working on developing practice management tools that included information on how to start your own practice. He went on to say that he provides consultation services and speaking to residents around the state. Dr. Hanson stated that he would be happy to provide information to anyone interested.

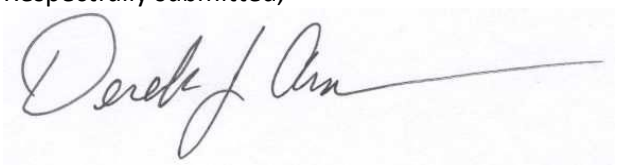
Dr. Mark Dawson informed the assembly regarding a presentation that he developed on how to establish a rural health clinic. He stated that the presentation was available on the LAFP website and would be happy to help anyone who wanted more information.

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 3:27 PM. THE MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,



Derek Anderson, MD
Speaker
General Assembly

Lindsay Liles, MD, FAAFP
Vice-Speaker
General Assembly