

## Abridged Minutes of the Aerospace Medical Association 85th Business Meeting

(Complete Minutes are available on the AsMA website in the Members Only section.)

Tuesday, May 13, 2014, Hilton San Diego Bayfront, San Diego, CA



**Webb**



**Sventek**

**Call To Order (Webb):** Jeff Sventek announced at 12:25 p.m. on May 13, 2014 that a quorum of members was in attendance.

**Recognition of Past Presidents (Webb):** Dr. Webb asked the AsMA past presidents in attendance to rise for recognition.

**In Memoriam (Webb):** The President asked attendees to pause and reflect on members no longer with us.

**Report of the President (Webb):** Dr. Webb announced the winner of the Stanley Mohler, M.D., Aerospace Medicine Endowed Scholarship was Mr. Joseph S. Butterfield of Rochester, MN.

The first Surgeons General meeting was held on Monday morning providing an opportunity to communicate and coordinate on matters of common interest. The meeting was led by Lt. Gen. Tom Travis, U.S. Air Force Surgeon General.

The agenda was changed to advance the discussion of the Policy Compendium. An ad hoc committee reviewed the AsMA Policy Compendium, which consisted of 110 documents. The Committee was led by Chuck DeJohn, Chair of the Resolutions Committee, because resolutions are a part of the Policy Compendium. The updated Policy Compendium will be posted online in the near future and will be organized and cross-referenced so you can find topics easily.

**Report of the Executive Director (Sventek):** Mr. President, officers, and members of the Aerospace Medical Association, it is my pleasure to report that this past year was very active and highly successful. It is the incredible volunteer spirit of our Association members that facilitates our success. Many thanks to all for your continued strong support of the Aerospace Medical Association. I'd like to recognize the Headquarters Office staff and our journal independent contractors. They work hard every day to provide a high quality scientific journal as well as outstanding customer service and administrative support to our nearly 2,300 members.

As many of you know, attendance at our Annual Scientific Meetings is affected by the ability of those attending to garner continuing education credits for their participation. Our Continuing Medical Education (CME) program was reviewed in the fall of 2012 and a decision from the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) was received just prior to the May 2013 meeting in Chicago. That decision letter identified two deficiencies in our CME program, one of which was a repeat deficiency from the 2009 reaccreditation review. As a result, the Aerospace Medical Association's CME program was placed on Probation and required to take actions to correct the deficiencies. We were also required to submit two progress reports to report our corrective actions and provide documentation to prove we were complying with the ACCME standards. I submitted our required progress reports in June and December last year. I am very happy to report the corrective actions approved by our governance bodies for continuing education were reviewed by the ACCME and their March 2014 Decision Letter stated "The ACCME has found that your organization brought the criteria it was required to address into compliance with the ACCME's current accredita-

tion expectations." Our CME program now meets all ACCME standards and we are no longer in a probationary status with the ACCME.

Nurses attend our Annual Scientific Meeting for numerous reasons, but we have not offered Nurse Contact Hours to help them meet their continuing education requirements. In 2013, we received Nurse Contact Hours for a Saturday workshop. It was well attended and a decision was made to expand the nurse continuing education offerings in the 2014 Annual Scientific Meeting. The Aerospace Nursing Society accepted the challenge to submit the necessary documentation to the Montana Nurses Association. This is no small task and Kimberly Barber, MSN-MBA, RN led the effort to organize and submit the required documents for review. Her efforts resulted in the Nursing Track being approved for 15.1 Nursing Contact Hours. Congratulations on this significant achievement.

As of this morning, total registration for this meeting is 1,355, compared to 1,176 at the same time for the 2013 meeting. Of that total, 1,224 were registered in advance of the meeting and 131 attendees registered on site. This represents an increase of 179 attendees or 15.2% above the 2013 meeting in Chicago. We extended the Advance Registration rates through the end of April in an effort to provide the U.S. federal agencies more time to make their conference funding decisions. We also worked closely with Mr. Walt Galanty of AIM Meetings and Events and the Hilton San Diego Bayfront Hotel to provide U.S. Department of Defense personnel U.S. government per diem room rates. This will be the last year our room block will be tiered with one rate for U.S. government employees and another rate for all others. Beginning with the 2015 meeting in Orlando, FL, all rooms will be offered at the U.S. government per diem rate.

There are 33 companies exhibiting with us this year using 34 exhibit booth spaces. We very much appreciate our exhibitors and corporate members. They provide our attendees with great insight into the latest technologies and processes to improve the delivery of Aerospace Medicine. We held the AsMA Welcome Reception in the Exhibit Hall again this year and I've received very positive comments for that event. We plan to continue this process next year.

Finally, I am required to report the Aerospace Medical Association financial status for 2013. I will leave the details to our Treasurer to explain but on December 31, 2013 the Aerospace Medical Association reported a loss of \$82,160 for 2013.

### GOVERNANCE (Webb)

#### Committees

**Nominating (Anzalone):** The Nominating Committee report was delivered by Fanancy Anzalone. The slate of officers identified by the Nominating Committee comprised:

President-Elect: Kris Belland

Vice Presidents: David Gradwell, Valerie Martindale (2 year tenure),

Eilis Boudreau (1 year tenure to fill Kris Belland's position)

Members-at-Large: Volker Damaan, Chuck DeJohn, Nicholas Greene, and Dwight Holland

The slate was approved by a voice vote.

**Bylaws (Laub):** All proposed changes to the Bylaws were approved as printed in the February issue of Aviation, Space, and Environmental Medicine, pp. 206-208.

**Finance (Ortega):** Joe Ortega discussed how the finances have changed over the past several years. New accounting principles, an audit, and the unexpected problems with the Chicago meeting were factors in the recent losses. We had a \$70K net loss in 2013 as a result of the \$150K reduction of revenue due to the meeting in Chicago. Attendance at this meeting suggests we will do better this year. The overall message is that our finances are looking a little brighter.

## REPRESENTATION AND ADVOCACY (Vermeiren)

### Committees

*Resolutions (DeJohn):* Chuck DeJohn reported that no resolutions to consider on the Resolutions Committee this year.

*Air Transport Medicine (Hudson):* Dr. Hudson reported that the ATM committee had a brief update on the Cabin Air Quality situation. Two studies had been done, the KLM study and the UK study. The results: no negative effects of cabin air quality; however the debate is not over.

The Committee is also looking at the problem of general physicians' lack of knowledge concerning inflight medical incidents and the content of medical kits on aircraft.

The position paper written by Johnson and Hudson on DVT related to traveling was published in the journal in February 2014.

The Committee has been asked to update the medical guidelines on airline travel both for passengers and physicians. They plan to link the guidelines to those of expert associations provided by other nations to avoid repeating work that has already been done. This will be put on the AsMA web site as a living document that will be constantly updated with many links to other sources for passengers and physicians.

The Committee has submitted a report on the issue of Obstructive Sleep Apnea in pilots, noting that they don't want OSA to become the scapegoat for fatigue.

Dr. Paolo Alves is the incoming chair.

*Communications Committee Report (Dervay):* Sept 5, 2012 was a significant date because it was the worldwide debut of the AsMA web site. After its debut, the web site Capital Campaign was initiated to raise \$30,000 for improvements and upgrades. Contributions are encouraged. Jim DeVoll is the incoming chair of this committee.

## EDUCATION AND RESEARCH (Martindale)

### Committees

*Aerospace Human Factors (Musselman):* Brian Musselman reported that the newly renamed Aerospace Human Performance Committee worked on identifying the changes in the committee's purpose and activities. They also contributed to the discussion of AsMA's Obstructive Sleep Apnea position. The Committee reviewed and provided inputs on several documents in the Policy Compendium.

Steve Veronneau will be Chair of the new Aerospace Human Performance Committee next year.

*Aerospace Safety (Martindale for Ricaurte):* The Committee was very active in contributing to AsMA's response to Congressional interest on replacing the requirement for a 3rd Class Medical Certificate to a state driver's license. They were also active in responding to the FAA's new policy regarding the requirement for a sleep study for Obstructive Sleep Apnea.

*Education and Training (Boudreau):* The committee worked closely with Jeff on continuing education issues to ensure that AsMA could attain and maintain ACCME accreditation. The Committee is currently working on an education survey to determine what people want and need with regard to continuing education.

The final activity is the proposed FAA policy for screening pilots with body mass indexes (BMIs) over 40. An ad hoc committee is developing a policy statement in support of that policy and providing a background to be sure that everyone had the key information they needed to become educated about the issue. ASAMS have a Clinical Practice guideline on sleep apnea that is highlighted in the position paper. The committee is working closely with ASAMS to have those published together.

Alex Garbino will be taking over as chair of the Committee next year.

*History and Archives (Dalitsch):* The National Museum of Naval Aviation in Pensacola has approved a proposal for a display highlighting the work of aeromedical professionals, part of which is an historical timeline. Since there is a lot of crossover among the naval aeromedical historical timeline and those of the early army signal corps, army air corps, and civil aviation medicine, it was suggested that a version of the full timeline be posted on the AsMA website with links to supporting historical documents and photographs to help explore the history of Aerospace Medicine.

In addition, Drs. Marchiando and Jacobson are creating a guide to educate museum-goers on the aeromedical aspects of equipment on-board aircraft. It will be posted on the AsMA website.

There are now almost 20 interviews in the Reinartz Project available on the Space Medicine Association's web site. A link to these will be added to the AsMA website.

*Science and Technology (Martindale for Fraser):* The Committee publishes a Science and Technology Watch column in the journal and welcome contributions. They sponsored a panel this year on modeling of dynamic loading.

## MEMBER SERVICES (Belland)

The Society of NASA Flight Surgeons was approved by Council as a new Constituent organization.

### Committees

*Membership (Belland for Annicelli):* The new chair will be Joe Dervay. The consolidated dues payment process will allow AsMA members to pay their dues in constituent organizations at the same time that they pay their AsMA dues. Seven of the constituent organizations have volunteered to participate and test the software.

We are beginning a 3- to 5-yr membership recruitment drive – we want to get to 3K in 5 years. Annicelli personally sent out 500 letters to major recruiting posts including Membership packages, sent personalized emails to more than 200 non-members, and started an AsMA Facebook page. He also reached out to members who were behind in their dues payments. His efforts resulted in at least 123 new members.

*Awards (Lowry):* The 23 Award Committee members reviewed 53 award nominations. All 19 awards were approved by the AsMA Executive Committee and will be presented on Honors Night.

Next year, the chair of the Awards Committee will be Jeff Myers.

*Corporate and Sustaining Membership (DeBois):* Because AsMA is now a 501(c)(3) organization, we need to work on the Corporate relationship to our organization. The committee is moving forward in an evolutionary way to reengineer the corporate relationship while protecting CME.

The new chair of the Corporate and Sustaining Membership Committee will be Peter Lee.

Kris Belland announced that the Executive Committee is working on a business strategic plan. A draft plan documenting the process is available to examine. The implementation phase will be next year and then will revisit the plan regularly to do a constant year-to-year update.

## INTERNATIONAL SERVICES (Gradwell)

Nearly 450 attendees to this meeting and about a third of the AsMA membership comes from outside the US. This is a trend that will continue and warrants increasing participation and leadership in the Association. David thanked General Travis and the President for bringing together some of the Surgeons General from around the world.

*International Activities Committee (Smart):* The incoming Chair of the International Activities Committee is Philip Buys. The committee plans to invite Affiliate Organization members to send representatives to Committee meetings and start talking about how they can get a better cross-fertilization of ideas between regions. The Committee wants to look into doing a survey regarding perspectives on international membership.

*Closing Remarks (Webb):* At the end of the meeting, Dr. Webb thanked Dr. Sarah Nunneley and Fred Bonato for initiating the change in the name of the journal to *Aerospace Medicine and Human Performance*. He also thanked Jeff Sventek and praised the AsMA Headquarters personnel for their support during his term of office. He thanked Lieutenant General Travis for his lecture. He recognized the efforts of the Executive Committee.

**Unfinished and New Business: None.**

**Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 1:42 PM**

Jeffrey C. Sventek, M.S., CAsP, Executive Director  
Carol Manning, Ph.D., Secretary