**District Meeting**

**New Orleans, Louisiana**

**June 18, 2011**

1. **The meeting was brought to order by Director Martin Baker at 6:22 PM**. Director Baker made an announcement that it appeared to him that there was a quorum present. He asked if anyone at the meeting would like to stand and refute that claim. No one did so. Thus, a quorum was declared by Director Martin.
2. **National Issues: Martin Baker, District III Director**

2.1 Jim Thornton (District II Director), Terry Noonan (District V), and Mark Gibson (District IV) presented as candidates for NATA President. There was a vote by the Board of Directors. The two candidates that will run for President this fall are Jim Thornton and Terry Noonan; they will present their platforms during *Face Time* tomorrow and Q&A in NATA News. In January 2012 the President-Elect will begin to participate and in June 2012 he will take office (St. Louis, MO).

2.2 The NATA is in sound fiscal health; it ended the year with 100K surplus in addition to a good return on investments. The NATA is running on a deficit budget, but they should see a profit next year. One and a half million dollars was made in Philadelphia and this meeting (New Orleans) should have about the same results.

2.3 Implementation of Vision Quest: The board has begun implementation of VQ with the formation of work groups assigned to each of the four (4) strategic goals that comprise VQ. Each strategic goal has sub sections. The NATA VP (Scott Sailor) will oversee the projects that will make these goals a reality. Each work group will have a member of the NATA BOD that oversees/coordinates the efforts of the group. The group will be made up of appropriate committee members and content experts. Each sub-section will have a timeline for completion.

2.4 Component Relations Project Team Implementation: a formation of the *State Association Advisory Committee* (SAAC) will be chaired by Donna Wesley who will break ties if necessary. Meg Thompson (Virginia) was our DIII representative to this task force. Every state has to appoint a person to be on the *State Association Group* (SAG). That representative does not have to be the state president and is not term-limited. Four caucases will be developed by membership size, assuming smaller state associations have the same concerns, while larger state associations have similar concerns. District III will be represented on all 4 caucuses. Two representatives from each caucus will form the *State Association Advisory Council* (SAAC) and will have term limits (2 years, once renewable). The District III Director will be the Board liaison to this SAAC. The state presidents are being asked to send 2 representatives from their respective state to the NATA by July 15th.

2.5 NATA By-Laws Change: This was discussed at the May MAATA District Meeting. The change and rationale for the change was reviewed. This change would give “Associate Members” a vote in NATA business. A table showing the number of non-members from each district was presented. A “next steps and timeline” was also presented. **Katie Walsh moved that District III not approve of the proposed changes as written.** Bob Casmus seconded the motion. Discussion included a question regarding if a quorum was present. Director Baker indicated that in his opinion a sufficient number of members were in attendance to achieve a quorum. Discussion also included points made during the May meeting. A question was posed regarding why the proposal was made by the NATA and Director Baker explained it was for reasons of inclusion; that is to make licensed athletic trainers feel a part of the association and encourage non-certified non-members to join (to increase membership). **A unanimous vote carried the motion.**

**3.0 District Business: Martin Baker, District III Director**

3.1 Summary of MAATA Symposium in Reston, Virginia in May 2011: The District sustained a loss of approximately $40,000 at our symposium in Reston. Income and attendance was unchanged from last year. We failed to meet the hotel’s rooming block requirements each of the three nights. This resulted in a $15,000 loss. Also there was no free rooms as was earned at the Cavalier in Virginia Beach; this was a about a $3,000 loss. The number of exhibitors (26 last year), was reduced under 15 this year resulted in about a $10,000 less than last year. The CATs meeting was at the same time as our meeting and this may be why we had fewer vendors this year. The food cost minimum at Reston was $25,000 at the Hyatt, while there was no minimum at the Cavalier last year (which was below $20,000). An example of costs was that it cost us $36.00 per dozen donuts and $4.50 per bag of popcorn as opposed to $1.50 per bag at the Cavalier. In general the district paid more for everything in Reston. Speaking generally the District was a valued customer at the Cavalier; this was not the case at the Reston. In moving forward, the immediate contract with the Hyatt in Greenville will require negotiations. There is the ability to break the contract with the Hyatt with a penalty, but that puts us in a “bad light” as a professional group. Treasurer Bob Cable’s report was projected for the membership to see the numbers described. It was made clear that financially the District can absorb this loss and continue to do well as we have in the past; however, we cannot sustain another loss this way next year. What the District did to minimize losses was also reported.

3.2 A 5- year proposal for choosing a site for the annual meeting was presented:

Year #1: WVa or Western NC site

Years 2-4: Cavalier

Year #5: SC or NC

Director Baker took responsibility for not looking at the contract as closely as he could have because he was used to being treated well by the Cavalier Hotel in VA Beach. He also mentioned that the NATA has a meeting planner that is willing to assist us in working with the hotel for our meeting and charges the hotel for that service. This service would be used for Years 1 and 5. We would not use this service when dealing with the Cavalier Hotel in years 2-4.

A questions was asked whether the Cavalier has been in discussions regarding this type of schedule; the answer was “no.” John Lopez asked if the meeting is a viable source of CEUs and suggested that vendors will not support the District if the meeting is at the Cavalier and when the meeting competes with the CATS meeting. He suggested we might move it to a different time of year, and asked if we need to make it more attractive to vendors. The Director asked about moving the meeting time; it was a dispersed response showing that it would be difficult to get a consensus. The meeting has always been the 3rd weekend in May for the past 30 years. The Director asked if there was support for the proposed schedule. It was suggested that we have only one year that did poorly and that adopting the proposed schedule seems reactionary. **Bob Casmus made a motion have the site selection committee look at this model and speak to the Cavalier about this type of schedule. There was no second or vote to this motion.**

* 1. Terry Noonan, a candidate for President of the NATA, addressed the membership. He asked the DIII membership to get involved, and to support Vision Quest.
  2. Bob Cable, Treasurer, is investigating a plan to move money from a Merrill Lynch CD (worth 45,000) that is not making money, nor is it FDIC insured. He proposes that we move this money to a protected CD in two accounts: one with $25,000 for one year at 1.3-2.75% interest, and the balance will go into a second account in 6-month CD that will roll over every 6 months and be readily accessible. Bob is talking to a banker that has experience with non-profit agencies. This would not be an aggressive (i.e., stocks) change to risk our principle. **Scott Johnson moved to take $25,000 and move it to a 1 year account and the remainder will be placed in a second 6-month CD. The motion was seconded by Marty Bradley; the motion passed.**
  3. Position Vacancy Announcements – Director Baker has asked Secretary Pat Aronson to notify the membership when leadership positions are available in the District. The openings will be placed on the MAATA website. This effort will be to increase transparency by the leadership of the District.
  4. District III’s Pete Kotz has been selected as this year’s Gatorade Secondary School Athletic Training Service Award. Congratulations were extended to Pete.

**4.0 Committee Reports**

* 1. **Allen Shelly, the new Chair of the College/University Athletic Trainers’ Committee** gave the following report to the membership: thanks went to Bob Casmus, the former chair of the CUATC. He has been and will continue to serve the MAATA and NATA. He will continue to work on the Educational Modules with this Committee. Educational Modules will be 10 slide presentations/10 minutes each. They will have something for the membership after approval of the modules at their January 2012 conference call. Allen has been appointed to the Honors and Awards subcommittee, headed up by Paul Culina. He urged members to nominate worthy individuals for these 8 CUATC awards. Allen has also been appointed to the College/University Value Model subcommittee. The Committee worked on the Value Model specific to the college and university setting. Kenny Boyd, the subcommittee leader gave a talk this morning. They also discussed and evaluated the possibility of implementing a voluntary accreditation for the athletic training service program. The NATA Think Tank will move to social media, and will incorporate Facebook and Twitter for communication. They discussed licensure issues concerning travel, and the fact that there are a number of states that do not have reciprocity and/or grace periods. Finally, there is a feeling from the CUATC that the college and university athletic trainer is not equally and/or appropriately represented in Vision Quest.
  2. **Scott Johnson, the new Chair of the NATA Research and Education Foundation Committee** reported to the membership. The 20/20 campaign is going on now at the foundation booth throughout the convention. The 20/20 campaign is in conjunction with the Foundation’s 20th anniversary, and they are asking members to donate $20 to the Foundation during this time. The 20/20 campaign goes through the end of the year, and donations can be made online by going to the Foundation website and clicking the link on the NATA homepage. The Foundation wants to remind members that NATA dues renewal is coming up in Oct/Nov. and this is a great time to remember to give to the Foundation. The REF is in the process of trying to fulfill the endowment of a District 3 Research Grant. Many schools have given to this fund and some have completed their pledge. Scott will be working with Bob Casmus over the next few years to get this grant completely funded. If a school would like to be involved in supporting this endowment, contact is made to Scott or Bob Casmus. The Foundation Board discussed having more of a presence at the district meetings; potentially supporting a speaker at the meetings. When a clinical program chair is appointed, these discussions will take place. Congratulations were given to the students of Western Carolina University, the winners of the Foundation Athletic Training Student Challenge. They will be awarded their prize at the Student Leadership Breakfast at the annual meeting here in New Orleans.
  3. **Pat Lamboni, Chair of the PAC** gave a short report to the membership. The NATA PAC held its meeting at the 2011 NATA meeting in New Orleans. Topics discussed included: the NATA PAC has climbed above the $125K mark recently which is good but we are far behind other health care professions. The 7 on 7 initiative was presented as a simple way to make a donation to the PAC. $7 on the 7th of every month will be charged to a credit card of choice. It is a renewable donation that can roll over for as long as you desire and is very helpful in contributing to the PAC. There are many ways to contribute: at renewal of dues or an annual donation. We are encouraged to give today at the NATA PAC new and improved web site.

NATAPAC collected $275 dollars at the MAATA meeting in Reston, VA at the Golf tournament and at the booth in the exhibit hall; hopefully this will be a start to a banner year of contributing in 2011. The disbursement of PAC funds can be found on the PAC web site. It was a slow year, but as the political season increases, the PAC will be making some moves to key players in the political issues that are or will affect our profession. Please continue to be informed.

* 1. **John Lopez, DIII Honors and Awards Committee Chair** reported that new forms and a rating system will be developed this summer. New members of the Committee have been appointed.
  2. **Bill Griffin, Chair of the Legislative Committee** reported to the membership. The Dan Campbell Class 2 award was won by Virginia this year for having a legislative plan and for their work on their concussion bill.

**The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 PM.**

Respectfully submitted by:

*Patricia Aronson*

District III Secretary