

**AzSRC Board of Directors Meeting
Saturday, January 26, 2008
Casa Grande, AZ**

MINUTES

I. Call to Order:

A. Meeting was called to order at 9:12 a.m., January 26, 2008.

B. Members present:

1. President: Chuck Ramirez BA, RRT
2. Past-President: Ron Evans RRT
3. President-Elect: Bill Sayers RRT
4. Vice President: Jeanette Keiffer RRT
5. Treasurer: Shannon Miranda BS, RRT
6. Secretary: Donna Pachek BS, RRT
7. Director: Michelle Williams RRT
8. Director: Edward Hoskins M.Ed.
9. Director: Kathy Rineer MBA, RRT
10. Delegate: Marie Fenske Ed.D., RRT
11. Delegate: Ed Thomas MA, RRT

C. Members Absent:

1. Director: Edward Hoskins M.Ed.
2. Director: Cheryl Hamilton MS, RRT

D. Guests Present:

1. Lauri Mast RRT
2. Jim Love RRT

II. Past Minutes:

Review of minutes by board members. Ed Thomas suggested that our individual credentials and higher levels of education be placed on the minutes. All members agreed.

A motion was made by Chuck Ramirez to accept past minutes, seconded by Ed Thomas, Motion passed.

III. President's Swearing in of 2008 board members (handout)

All board members stood and recited an oath of office obtained through the AARC. A picture of this group was taken and will be placed on the AzSRC web-site.

IV. Treasurer's Report:(handout)

Shannon Miranda presented report.

Shannon stated that she met with the 2007 AzSRC Treasurer Charez Norris and reviewed the documentation process for this position. She presented a 2007 profit/loss report to the board. Also stated that we need a budget that includes income (to include savings)/ expenses/ variance. She distributed a hard copy of a check request form that she will send out electronically. When submitting for reimbursement, please send this electronically.

Discussion ensued:

Ron: We currently are using two banks – Wells Fargo & Bank of America. We have a CD that will mature in July/2008. This has an approximate value of \$16,000.00. The board may consider placing both the checking and saving accounts into one bank. It may be cost effective to have a combined checking/saving account. It would also be convenient to sign at one bank when signature cards need to be changed.

Ed: He agreed that localizing the accounts is practical. He also inquired about the AzSRC Education fund.

Marie: The foundation is a separate fund. It supports the education needs of the AzSRC. Pam Artibey should be contacted.

Upon review of the 2007 profit/loss statement, multiple board members were asking about the usefulness of the golf tournament held during the conference. The conference committee needs to evaluate the expenses incurred by the golf tournament and achieve a positive balance in income/expenses.

V. Delegate Report:

Report by Marie Fenske/Ed Thomas

Marie reminded the board that the House of Delegates meeting will be held in Phoenix in July 2008. It is customary to give a gift to the members. Approximately 100 delegates and executive board members. Gift suggestions included either a letter opener with AzSRC seal or AzSRC lapel pin. Any other suggestions are appreciated.

Discussion ensued:

Chuck: Funds to pay for these gifts could come from the reduction of cost in mailing out the Airways.

Marie: We need to promote membership to the AARC, which in turn contributes to the AzSRC.

Ron: Continue offering discounts to students. Encourage each to become active in the AARC as they enter their professional career. The AzSRC website could be expanded to include a blog/chat room or discussion groups. Our website could expand our visibility and promote interest in the AARC & AzSRC.

Chuck: Stated that he would speak with the web master regarding the web site.

Donna: Representatives from the Banner System diligently reach out to the graduating respiratory students. We all can role model this behavior and have a representative from each healthcare system provide information at a open house for the graduating students.

V. Report on Committee Activities:

A. 1. PACT Committee:

Report by Jim Love.

Jim Love and Toni Rodriguez will be attending the PACT meeting in March 2008. Four appointments have been set with state senators & representatives. An attempt will be made to meet with all ten state senators & representative. The main agenda items include HR 552/S 329 Pulmonary Rehabilitation Legislation and HR 3968 Medicare Respiratory Therapy Initiative.

Ron and Chuck each remarked how impressed they are at Jim's ability to connect with the legislators' and represent the AzSRC.

2. Membership Committee:

Report by Lauri Mast.

She stated that she Chuck will be forwarding the new membership listing when he receives it from the AARC.

3. Education/Scholarships Committee:

Report by Jeanette Kieffer.

No activity at this time.

4. Annual Seminar Committee:

Report by Chuck Ramirez.

Two meetings have been held thus far. The bridge line phone conference was successful in an effort to get additional people involved in the organization of the conference.

Agenda items/discussions of these meetings have included:

- Golf tournament needs to generate more revenue. This is a primary sponsor of the scholarship fund. The cost of the tournament needs to monitor closely.
- Location – Arizona Grand Resort aka: (Point South Mountain)
- Dates – Two possibilities, August 19, 20, 21 or August 26, 27, 28
Discussion ensued; **Ron Evans motioned that the conference be held on August 19, 20, 21. Kathy Rineer seconded. Motion passed.**
- Food cost – pricing will remain the same since the last conference.
- Room rates – under negotiation. Since we are committing for a two-year contract, we may obtain a reduced rate.
- Vendor room – needs to be bigger to accommodate additional booths and additional space for current vendors.
- Market for 2009 AzSRC conference that it will be held at the same location. RCP's can then plan ahead for next years conference.
- Dave Block from Monaghan has committed to sponsor a national speaker.
- Jeanette Keiffer will coordinate speakers.

- In an attempt to get more people involved in the conference, it was suggested that the hospitals Directors introduce the speakers.
- Another suggestion was to include a session on “meet the AzSRC Board”. May also expand this to include an explanation of the differences between the AzSRC and AzBOE.
- The cost of a vendor booth will be \$550.00.

Another discussion item included a one-day conference to be held at various sites within the state. This is an attempt to reach out to the smaller rural areas. In an attempt to accomplish this quickly, the speakers that presented at the Gateway program could be contacted to identify availability. Discussion ensued, a member of the board was not identified to take the lead on this project.

B. 1. Publications/Marketing Committee:

Report by Michelle Williams.

The Airways newsletter is web based now. She requested that board members communicate with other society members to send in additional articles for publication. Primary articles would include a President’s message to include a vision/goals for 2008, a RT department feature, seminar information and award nominations for department/practitioner/educator of the year. The deadline for the award nomination is 5/31/08.

2. Web Report:

Report by Chuck Ramirez.

Corporate advertisement space is available on the AzSRC web page \$100.00 for the first month and \$50.00 thereafter.

C. 1. Legislative Update – Governor Proposal (handout)

Report by Chuck Ramirez.

In the state of the state address 1/2008, Governor Napolitano presented a billion dollar deficit for the state of Arizona. In an effort to address this problem, it was proposed that the various “boards” be combined. This resulted in the suggestion of combining the RN and AzBOE. This would be a 15 member board to include 12 RN’s and 3 RT’s.

Lively discussion ensued.

Concerns identified included:

- Reduce the ability of the RT and RN boards to conduct peer reviews of their Licensees. RT and RN practice in different ways, one profession cannot effectively regulate the practice of another profession.
- Limits the ability of the AzBOE to issue advisory opinions on issues of respiratory professional practice.

- Reduces the AzBOE ability to create health policy as it pertains to respiratory care and qualifications to practice.
- AzBOE is a 90/10 entity, completely self-funding. There are no cost reductions that can be achieved from this initiative.
- The voice of the Respiratory Therapy Profession would be submerged in the voice of Nursing.

Jim: He expects that this will die in the health committee. But suggested that the 4000 licensed Respiratory Therapists contact their individual state representatives and senators. We must make our voice heard!

Chuck: He will contact the AARC to inform them of our situation. They may be able to give us assistance in communicating this to all AARC members that resides in Arizona. He is formulating a contact list of state representatives & senators to be place on the place on the AzSRC web site for all practitioners to utilize. He also informed the board that he understands that the nursing board is not in favor of this proposal. He will be contacting the hospital association to determine their interpretation of this proposal.

VI. Old Business:

1. Life Membership – Harry McAlpine.

Report by Ed Thomas.

Ed stated that Harry was very touched by this recognition. He proposed that the AzSRC create a Hall of Fame that can be located on the AzSRC web site. The AzSRC would need to determine the criteria for enrollment/nominations etc..

All board members agreed that this was an excellent idea.

VII. New Business:

1. Summit Award

Report by Marie Fenske.

Marie reminded that the AARC House of Delegates presents the Summit Award to the outstanding state society. The deadline for the nomination process is on 3/31/08. Ron Evans agreed to that the lead on this project.

2. Conference Update.

See minutes A 4.

3. Lobbyist – Rory Hays ratify email vote.

Report by Chuck Ramirez.

Chuck reminded the board that an email vote had taken place to hire Rory Hays as our lobbyist under a retainer. He also mentioned that formally at the state legislature Ron Evans/ Ed Thomas/Jim Love and Chuck Ramirez are identified as lobbyist for

the AzSRC.

Ron Evans motioned that the email vote to hire Rory Hays be ratified and to offer her the position and have her sign the contract. Ed Thomas seconded. Zero Discussion. Motion passed.

4. Disaster Preparedness.

Report by Chuck Ramirez.

Chuck informed the board that Michelle Humphreys would no longer be fulfilling this task. We need to identify someone to lead in this endeavor.

Ed: Rob Scott may be interested.

Marie: The AARC has a strong representation.

5. Open discussion.

A. Franklin Miller apology letters need to be presented on the AzSRC web site. Chuck stated that he would speak with the web master.

B. Dr. Chu, our Medical Director has been given the AzSRC bylaws. His application to the AARC was lost. Lauri Mast will be assisting him in completing this project.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:23. The date for the next meeting has not been determined at this time.