**Kentucky Academy of Science**

**Governing Board Meeting Minutes**

February 18, 2022

The KAS Board virtual (Zoom) meeting was convened on Friday February 18, 2022 at 4:02 PM(EST). Members present include: Jon Dixon, Amanda Fuller, Rob Weber, Dr. Rodney King, Dr. Trent Garrison, Dr. Kate He, Dr. Wei Song, Dr. Seyed Allameh, Dr. Frank Ettenshohn,. Scott Miller, Melony Stambaugh, Dr. Julie Ann Reizner, Dr. Rachel Pritchard, Dr. Justin McFadden, Mark Vincent Dela Cerna, Dr. Marilyn Akins, Dr. Bruce Griffis, Dr. Noel Novelo, Dr. Scott Wicker, Dr. Melissa Mefford, and Dr. Elizabeth Thomas (17 members logged in Zoom)

Members absent:

1. Welcome:

Jon Dixon is new president of KAS welcomed everyone to the Winter KAS board meeting (virtual). New members introduced themselves: Rob Weber new staff member (Communication and Policy Director). Dr. Noel Novelo is the Vice President and teaches at Kentucky State University. Dr. Melissa Mefford is the biological science representative and is in her 4th at Morehead State University. Dr. Elizabeth Thomas secretary and is in her 2nd year at Morehead State University. Dr. Rodney King at WKU and is the treasurer. Dr. Trent Garrison is past president. Dr. Julie Reizner teaches at NKY and is a science representative. Dr. Rachel Pritchard from Kentucky Wesleyan University, Dr. Wei Song social sciences University of Louisville, and J. Scott Miller teaches physics two year college Maysville College.

1. November meeting minutes:

J. Scott Miller motion for approval, seconded by Dr. Trent Garrison. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Treasurer’s Report:

Dr. Rodney King presented treasurer’s report. Details of the report is attached.

* Need to discuss how to handle Stifel Account regarding taking out regular distributions of 3%
* Dr. Trent Garrison asked about the business expenses including the Web hosting. Web hosting includes all communication such as journal hosting.
* Dr. Rodney King wants Stifel to attend our meeting next time and talk to the board about the transition to the new company
* Discussion regarding how to make the financial transactions esp Payroll taxes “less clunky”

Dr. Seyed Allameh motion to approve treasurer’s report, Trent Garrison seconds, Motion carried unanimously.

Motion J. Scott Miller to approve the budget and include a 3% withdraw, seconded by Dr. Wei Song. Motion carried unanimously.

1. Recording of the Darwin Lecturer link in chat.
2. 2022 Grant Awards

Dr. Rodney King presented Research Grant Awards. The key points of his report include

* Special Research Grants which came out of the reviewers comments (two closely scored 90.8 and 90.6)
  + Dr. Rodney King recommended that these two grants be funded completely
  + Recommended funding two research grants at recommended amount.
  + Special Research Awards Approved
* Athey Outreach grant (one submission and received a high score)
  + Dr. Rodney King recommended that this grant be funded at recommended amount; Approved.
* Undergraduate Summer Research Grants (three submissions)
  + Dr. Rodney King recommended that the first grant be funded at recommend amount.
  + President Jon Dixon recommended we fund the grant.
* Undergraduate Research Supply Grant
  + Dr. Rodney King recommended we fund the grant at recommended amount.
  + Dr. Noel Novelo questioned whether we should not approve grants unless certain changes be made.
  + Dr. Marilyn Adkins abstained since the grant recipient is from her school.
* Marcia Athey and Botany Grants (three in category)
  + Mark Vincent abstained from the vote.
  + Dr. Rodney King recommended we fund two of the grants at the recommended amount; Approved.

1. Dr. Rodney King will be stepping down as Treasurer and from the grants committee after this Fall’s meeting but is willing to help the next person coming in for the transition. Dr. Rodney King is going on Sabbatical.
2. Education & Advocacy Committee

Dr. Trent Garrison presented Education & Advocacy report. Key points include

* Weekly meetings 12:30 Wednesdays, 10 new bills Education for Science, Environmental Group, good opportunity to see what type of legislation is being implemented
* Website has been update and linked and are in actual English, Rob is going to make it even more “readable”. As of right now we have had 700 bills and have narrowed it down to 50. Link on the websites for the link and Rob has a link that lets you know where the bill is (status).
* HB51. Board approved unanimously to OPPOSE. Watched a video of the Discussion of HB 51 The KAS largest organization of science in KY with greater 4000 members, HB 51 would remove the ability of schools to mandate the wearing of masks.
* CRT bills (about 6 at this point). We rank these bills and prioritize the bills. CRT and HB 51 top 10 important bills.

1. Communications & Policy Director

Rob Weber presented communications and policy report. Key points include-

* Covering three main areas: Policy, Communication, and Advocacy, these are all interrelated-engagement.
* Fund raising: We were able to raise money through mailing and online appeals. Best guidance principles of fund-raising course and believes it has been eye opening…development requires lots of engaging relationships with people, hopes will bear fruit at a later date. Building your case for support, characterize donor levels, how many times must ask for groups, etc fundraiser on facebook
* Communication: robust social effort with everyone already putting good stuff out there. Rob has been able to use bench talk and highlighting and loves the editor Mark does for the newsletter. Tornados in Western Ky and sees a person in the news, go to the website to find if that person is affliated with our group. We had a KAS member playing interesting role in a catastrophic event which was captured in the Newsletter.
* Advocacy: 700 bills reviewed greater 200 bills, the top 40 bills are updated on the website daily. The three big areas: education, environment (legislation on plastics and PFOS), and health (lung cancer screening)
* Dr. Trent Garrison said that he has gotten feedback that KAS bringing in Rob is unprecedented at this time and it speaks to the work that Rob is doing for KAS.

1. AJAS/NAAS Donation

President Jon Dixon announces that we just need to discus AJAS/NAAS donation. Amanda says it has been put it in the budget and we do not need to discuss this item.

1. Junior Academy Report

Melony Stambaugh presented junior academy of science report. Key points of Melony’s report include-

* Brainstorm whether Junior Academy of Science meeting should be held in April?
* Jam Board that asked various questions about how to reach students? How we can connect between the Junior Academy and KAS?
* The feedback included concerns Lots of feedback-main concerns: reimbursement may not cover cost, funding based on place, and lack of diversity 95% of high school students coming from one school, what value providing to students, when students are at the National Meeting, there is nothing showing that they are representing Kentucky.
* We can Continue? We can Discontinue? We can have high school in fall meeting and middle school in April? We can incorporate all into the fall KAS meeting?. We can coordinate with regional and state science fair? We can go in find a project and give that a special award, other options? Where we want to go? Funding? Fund all not based on place?
* President Jon Dixon announced anyone available to stay after the meeting can further discuss this topic.

1. Journal Report

Dr. Frank Ettensohn presented Journal report. Key points of the report include-

* Last years journal was published. We currently have three scientific reviews and one coming in we have no papers on science education and social science.
* We need more of any paper. How to reach out science education?
* Dr. Wei Song suggested offer people the grant then ask them to submit to their journal as part of the process. Dr. Trent Garrison says “Great Idea!”

1. Executive Director’s Report:

Amanda Fuller presented the executive director’s report. Key points of the report include-

* Office hours MWF 10-5
* We have renewals from several schools.
* Log on to hear about nanotechnology-Promoting EPSCoR and this SEED money helped them to do this research. Research and Facilities are available to other institutions.
* Plastics, PFOS, Medical Cannabis, are ideas for topics for Bench Talk
* Spring event March 26th KAS has had a table and sponsor, whether that would be a good partnership, $150 to go there.
* President Jon Dixon made an Executive Decision Yes from the Presidents Fund.
* Posters at the Capital March 3rd.
* AAAS Section Y meeting Trent went to that meeting. Billboard Posters encouraging students to do this format, interesting to check that out.
* Speakers Bureau members-call out newsletter and have found some people who are not KAS members-been very successful, grow this expertise. Promote it when you have opportunities, respond to media, great resource.
* National Association of Academies of Science (March 11th National Assembly) voting event, encourage everyone to “hop on to that meeting”.

1. Other Reports & Announcements:

* Amanda AAAS 4pm keynote - vaccinations mRNA by Johnson and Johnson
* Dr. Scott Wicker: Kentucky State University STEM leadership accepted as a Fellow and must work with other institutions to broaden participation in underrepresented areas and would like to work with KAS and partner with institutions for outreach; possibly a future presentation on this to KAS.

Meeting adjourned at 4:02pm.