

East Texas District Minutes
February 21, 2019

The East Texas District met at Tyler Junior College in the Rogers Nursing and Health Sciences Center on February 21, 2019.

The food was sponsored by Physical Therapy Services with comments from Terry Bunker, P.T, owner.

David Jackson, PT, owner and CEO of Choice rehab also spoke to encourage advocacy for therapists in the ever changing healthcare system.

Vicky Grese of UT Tyler spoke about the acquisition of ETMC by UT Health Tyler.

The minutes from the last meeting and the board meeting on February 13 were reviewed and approved.

Updates:

About 450 therapists and students attended the legislative day on February in Austin, including Ann Huffstetter, PTA, Artis Newsome, PT, Laurie Hurst, PT and Terry Bunker, PT. HB29 and SB732 have been filed in the Texas legislature and representatives/senators have been visited. Artis prepared a packet for students to help them get involved in the push for patient access.

Rupal Patel, governance review chair, asked for suggestions about the APTA forum in March. She also requested that districts still under bylaws consider changing to Roberts Rules of Order.

The PT compact with other states has been rolled out.

The bill involving telehealth needs to have PTAs added to it. Polly is on the ad hoc committee to get PTAs added. Texas is the only state that has restricted PTAs from telehealth, except that the PTA can be present with the PT during the telehealth conference.

The state board will investigate animal physical therapy.

The fingerprint requirement for licensure is active; all are reminded to get it done ASAP. The communiqué from the board about how to avoid renewal processing delays was reviewed.

Upcoming events:

The 50th anniversary of the PTA with a major celebration planned during annual conference, ETD elections for chair, nominating committee and treasurer in April, The district seminar on April 27 and a fund raiser at Aspen grill in July.

HOD has nine motions to consider.

The meeting was adjourned and followed by a presentation by Lt. Col. Joseph M. Confetti, MD, FAOOS on “Mako Robotic Arm Assisted Surgery: What Physical Therapists Need to Know” for 1.0 CCU.

Respectfully,
Ann Huffstetter, PTA
District Secretary