Approval of Minutes – On motion, duly seconded, the minutes of the April 2, 2017, meeting were approved.

Report of the President – MSMA President, Dr. Warren Lovinger, reported on his travels to visit members throughout the state. His goal is to visit all 114 counties in Missouri, and he has so far visited 67 counties. He also visited two component societies: Mid-Missouri Medical Society in Rolla, and Tri-County Medical Society in Washington. He attended the annual meetings of Arkansas, Oklahoma and Iowa, and plans to attend annual meetings in Nebraska and Kansas.

Dr. Lovinger reported that he and Dr. Ravi Johar, along with Haley Wansing and Sarah Luebbert, have been working on the physician mentorship program, and encouraged all members to become involved in the program. Seventy-five physicians are currently signed up for the mentorship program.

Report of the Executive Committee – Dr. Lovinger reported the Committee met on Saturday, July 15. He invited Dr. Johar to speak about some mechanism by which the Council could review resolutions submitted to the House of Delegates and express an opinion in advance of House consideration. Some councilors expressed concern that we not violate the constitutional separation of power between MSMA’s executive and legislative branches. The Council approved a suggestion to add language to the House Speaker’s instructions, reminding the House of its prerogative to address submitted resolutions and not refer them to Council unless it is clearly prudent to do so.

Dr. Lovinger resumed the podium to report that the Primaris deal is nearly done, and the funds are now in possession of MSMA’s Health Education Foundation.

He announced that administrative services for the Missouri Chapter of the American College of Physicians,
which have been directed by Mr. Pat Mills, will now be provided by Ms. Sarah Luebbert as Pat takes on the role of Executive Vice President of MSMA.

On motion, duly seconded, the report of the Executive Committee was approved.

Report of Budget and Finance Committee – MSMA Treasurer, Dr. David Pohl, reported that the Committee met on Saturday.

MSMA reserves are currently approximately $12.4 million. Dues revenues are down $60,000 from last year to date, but the budget anticipated a 2% drop. Royalty income is improving, having favorably re-negotiated with two of our vendor partners and adding three new vendor partners: LifeLine, Officite and MedJet Assist. Administrative Services income totals about $82,000. Total Income to date is $1.2 million, down about $27,000 from last year to date. In General Expenses, the near-death experiences book will shift to a profit item, once a certain minimum has been reached. Another unforeseen expense item is Attorney Fees for the Williston lawsuit against MSMA. Total expenses for MSMA are $1.029 million, down about $8,000 from last year at this time. Given our anticipated third- and fourth-quarter expenses, we could be as much as $30,000 under budget by year end.

The Physicians Health Foundation has a good mid-year report. Revenues were up $86,000, and expenses were up only $9,000. Part of their expenses involve a shifting clientele, no longer being just drug and alcohol addiction, but including behavioral and mental health issues.

Dr. Pohl outlined the current dues structure. He asked members to consider whether to continue the current structure, and invited discussion on the issue. On motion, duly seconded, the decision was made to keep the current dues structure and not increase dues in 2018.

Report of the Executive Vice President – Mr. Tom Holloway welcomed members to the Lake of the Ozarks.

He reported that the membership half-year recruitment offer is bringing in some revenue.

Jeff Howell and Kenny Jackson had a successful legislative session, and members were encouraged to look over the annual Legislative Review in their folders.

Mr. Holloway announced the retirement of Dr. Charles Sincox as Medical Director of the Missouri Physicians Health Program. Dr. Lisa Thomas of Columbia assumed that role on July 1, 2017. Many thanks to Dr. Sincox for his long years of service.

The Williston lawsuit continues to drag on, making it necessary to pay attorneys to respond to every charge, or risk losing a default judgment.

The parties involved in the Anthem-Cigna and Aetna-Humana mergers have dropped their pursuit of appeals, so the federal court rulings blocking these mergers stand. MSMA, AMA and a handful of other states have worked very hard on this issue, and it is a big victory for both organized medicine and patients.

Mr. Holloway reported that Anthem has notified its Missouri members that beginning June 1, it will no longer cover emergency department services for conditions deemed not a true emergency. Federal and state laws require insurance companies to pay for services for any symptom that would lead a person with an average knowledge of health and medicine to believe that immediate care was necessary. Anthem has, however, created a list of nearly 2,000 medical diagnoses for which any patient receiving emergency services will have to pay him or herself. This means that coverage is no longer based on symptoms, but rather on diagnosis. MSMA
has objected strenuously, and is working with the Missouri Hospital Association, MAOPS, and the Missouri Chapter of the College of Emergency Physicians against the new policy. On motion duly made and seconded, the Council voted to formally oppose the new Anthem policy on this matter.

Mr. Holloway reported that the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services has announced that it will begin rigorously enforcing a law that requires an attending physician to report within 45 days any complications resulting from an abortion procedure. They have issued an official reporting form that includes about a dozen complications, including vague “psychiatric” and “other” complications. Failure to comply subjects the physician to revocation of license and conviction of a Class A misdemeanor. This applies not only to the physician performing the abortion, but also to any physician treating any complication that arises from an abortion procedure. We have partnered with the Missouri Hospital Association and MAOPS, and are talking to the Department of Health to try to get some clarification and better guidance for physicians to comply.

Mr. Holloway reported on the federal Quality Payment Program (QPP) which is the current Medicaid physician payment system. MSMA and AMA are working to educate physicians on what they need to do now in order to avoid payment penalties in 2019. Information is on the MSMA website, and we will be getting the word out in our publications and email blasts. He encouraged members to help get the word out to colleagues.

The MSMA Insurance Conference will take place on Thursday, July 20, at the Renaissance Airport Hotel in St. Louis. You may register by visiting our website, and direct questions to Cheri Martin.

The following votes were taken to fill vacancies on the MSMA Council:

On motion, duly seconded, Lisa Thomas, MD, will take the 5th District Councilor seat vacated by Dr. Joseph Corrado.

On motion, duly seconded, Clark Andelin, MD, will take the 5th District Vice-Councilor seat vacated by Dr. Thomas.

On motion, duly seconded, Brian Curtis, MD, will take the 8th District Vice-Councilor seat vacated by the resignation of Dr. Ellen Nichols.

On motion, duly seconded, Dr. Warren Lovinger, Jr., will take the AMA Delegate seat vacated by the retirement of Dr. Ted Groshong.

On motion, duly seconded, Dr. Joseph Corrado will take the AMA Alternate Delegate seat vacated by the retirement of Dr. Nathaniel Murdock.

Report of the Commission on Continuing Education – Dr. DiRenna referred members to the Commission’s report in the Council folders.

Report of the Physicians Health Committee – Dr. Lisa Thomas directed members’ attention to the report of the Physicians Health Program in the folders. She emphasized how vital the program is, and how the range of issues has broadened over the years. She introduced the MPHP’s new gift acceptance policy, and encouraged physicians to consider including the program in their will, estate and trust planning.

Dr. David Barbe reported that Bob Bondurant has connected with the Federation of State Physician Health Programs, and will participate in a forum or seminar at the AMA’s Interim Meeting in November.
Report of the Committee on Legislative Affairs – Dr. Johar presented the report. The Committee met on Saturday, July 15, and heard a comparison on the competing congressional bills to replace the Affordable Care Act. MSMA staff reviewed the 2017 legislative session. Dr. Barbe gave a national perspective on some of the federal issues, and shared his thoughts on the future.

Resolution #11 was referred to MSMA Council by the House of Delegates. The Committee recommends the following substitute resolution be adopted:

“Resolved, that the Missouri State Medical Association continue to support Medicaid medical benefit coverage for the treatment of dental conditions that complicate or exacerbate systemic medical disease.”

On motion, duly seconded, the substitute resolution was adopted.

MSMA staff gave the Committee an update on their summer advocacy objectives. They also gave a review of the rules and regulations promulgated by the Department of Insurance, and are working on developing legislation for the 2018 legislative session. Dr. Johar directed members’ attention to the Legislative Review and commended our lobbyists on their hard work.

Actions and Recommendations on Resolutions – Dr. DiRenna referred members to the table in their folders that outlines the dispensation of all the resolutions from the Annual Meeting. He asked members to direct any questions they may have to the MSMA staff.

Report on KaMMCO Health Solutions – Dr. Alexander Hover reported that an advisory committee has been formed to explore a partnership with KaMMCO Health Services that will allow MSMA to license a Health Information Exchange and clinical data analysis program to market to Missouri physicians and hospitals. The physicians involved included Drs. John Stanley, Charles Van Way and James Schell, as well as MSMA staff members Pat Mills and Tom Holloway. The committee examined the Kansas health information exchange and the technical and operational capabilities of the KaMMCO Health Solutions, and felt they were capable of delivering the services they had advertised. The committee believes this would be beneficial for a number of reasons, and that this would be a membership benefit with almost no financial risk to MSMA.

Dr. Hover moved that MSMA staff, with the advice and consent of the MSMA Executive Committee, negotiate and execute a contract with KaMMCO Health Solutions on behalf of MSMA members as a membership benefit. The motion, duly seconded, carried.

Pat Mills will be the person responsible at the staff level. He stated that a timeline will be developed in the next week or so for getting this information on the website. He encouraged members to contact him if interested in contributing.

Report of the Membership Committee – Dr. Johar reported that the Membership Committee met earlier that morning. Membership numbers are as follows: 2,447 active members, 406 retired members, 118 residents, and 930 medical students, for a total of 3,901 members. We have gained 207 new members this year, as well as 162 renewals from those who had previously been members, and dropped. We have had a significant loss in the number of active members, so we are looking strongly at the retention issue. Dr. Johar asked that everyone reach out to the new members. Haley Wansing and Sarah Luebbert have postcards available for contacting those new members. The committee had an update on student and resident activities, and brainstormed ideas for engaging the residents and getting them more involved. They also received an update on field service activities throughout the state. There is now a postcard featuring a photo of Council members, which is being sent out to all new licensees in the state. There will be a “White Coat Night” at the ballpark in
St. Louis on Friday, August 11, when the Cardinals play the Atlanta Braves. More than 120 have signed up for this.

On motion, duly seconded, the Membership Committee report was approved.

**MSMA Alliance Report** – Mrs. Donna Corrado provided the report on behalf of MSMA Alliance President Marsha Conant. She referred members to the Alliance report in their packets. Mrs. Conant has been traveling to various counties in Missouri.

Mrs. Corrado reported that Mrs. Barb Hover was a task representative on the AMA Alliance, and has been on the opioid task force and helped put together the program for the Alliance regarding the opioid and prescription drug epidemic. There is an informational packet, as well as a DVD in which Kelly O’Leary tells the story of losing her son to an opioid overdose. Mrs. Corrado and Mrs. O’Leary are now offering to do a 20-minute program for county groups discussing the opioid epidemic and the science of addiction.

Mrs. Corrado invited everyone to attend the Alliance Fall Conference October 4 and 5.

**AMA Report** – Dr. Edmond Cabbabe reported that the AMA Annual Meeting was held in June. Thanks to Dr. Charles Van Way for gathering the information to produce the report that is in Council folders. The next meeting will be the interim meeting in November. Despite being a small group, Missouri has accomplished a lot at the AMA: Dr. David Barbe is AMA President; Dr. David Fleming has been appointed to CEJA; Dr. Cabbabe has finished his third three-year term at the AMA Foundation, and has started a four-year appointment on the Council on Long Range Planning and Development; and Dr. Jerry Kennett is on the AMA Council on Legislation.

At the annual meeting, Dr. Rebecca Hierholzer chaired a reference committee, and Dr. Elie Azrak was a reference committee member.

Dr. Cabbabe reported that the Missouri Honor Fund has surpassed $250,000 in pledges and donations. Missouri is the smallest group to have reached this level. He encouraged anyone who has made a pledge to pay it as soon as they can. He will soon write an article in Missouri Medicine, outlining how and when to apply for the funds.

Dr. Cabbabe invited Dr. Barbe to comment on the status of health care reform. Along with his comments, Dr. Barbe encouraged members to sign up for “AMA Morning Rounds,” a daily email push of information that is a synopsis of the day’s activities. “Weekend Edition” is a members-only subscription, which summarizes the week’s activities.

**Councilor District Reports**

**District #1** – Dr. Robert Corder encouraged members not to put off the subject of the drug problem in this country.

**District #3** – Dr. Inderjit Singh reported that the Physician Leadership Institute will begin September 16, and run through November 11, offering 21 CME credits. This is organized by SLMMS, and will extend member benefits and discounts to MSMA members.

The annual Hippocrates Lecture will take place on Wednesday, October 4, at Spazio’s Westport. There will be a cocktail hour, followed by dinner and a presentation by Dr. Barbe: “How the AMA Affects Everyday Practice – What Have You Done For Me Lately?” Contact SLMMS office for reservations.
SLMMS is launching a multi-employee 401k plan as a new member benefit. It is being developed by Triad Financial Group. Contact SLMMS office for more information.

District #5 – Dr. Lisa Thomas commended SLMMS’ Physician Leadership Institute, which she participated in last year. She encouraged anyone interested to contact Dave Nowak at SLMMS.

Dr. Thomas thanked Dr. Barbe for speaking at the March CME general membership meeting, and having a productive lunch meeting with Board members.

BCMS is working on soliciting Cole County physicians to join. At the May meeting, 150 invitations were sent out, and six potential members participated. Work continues on local membership of residents and fellows; 35 residents from MU have joined this year.

The annual meeting with residency directors and M1 members of Mizzou medical society will be in August; 75 individuals participated last year.

This fall, there will be the annual football tailgate held in conjunction with the Alliance.

District #6 – Dr. Warren Lovinger displayed a Missouri product basket, which he has been giving as gifts during his travels, and thanked Haley Wansing for her work on the baskets.

District #7 – Dr. Lancer Gates reported that Kansas City Medical Society continues to work on the bi-state Kansas City Medical Society, which will include Wyandotte and Johnson Counties.

KCMS offices have moved to the former Westport High School Plexpod, reducing expenses in order to make the budget fit the mission of the society.

KCMS is unaffiliated, and we are looking at creative ways to encourage members to become members of both KCMS and MSMA.

Dr. Gates spoke of the opioid crisis, and his experiences as a hospitalist in regard to the problem. He supports any efforts to alleviate the opioid crisis.

District #8 – Dr. Alexander Hover reported that District #8 has been active with respect to national speakers for CME. There was a sports medicine workshop on field management of heatstroke, and one on HPV prevention through vaccination and managing HPV.

Greene County Alliance sponsored Dr. Samantha Meltzer-Brody, a psychiatrist from North Carolina dealing with physician burn-out.

GCMS is active in the opioid abuse issue, and has developed materials in collaboration with Missouri State University that have been adopted nationally. They support the St. Louis County ordinance adoption in Greene County and the city of Springfield as a prescription drug monitoring program, co-partnering with law enforcement and local public health.

Student involvement has been remarkable, particularly with respect to resolutions that deal with their impending practice. Their efforts are appreciated.

District #9 – Dr. Lirong Zhu reported that the Mid-Missouri Medical Society has been re-activated after many years of inactivity. A letter was sent to society members, explaining the benefits of organized medicine, and
what MSMA does for members. Dr. Lovinger visited at the May meeting, and explained the outcomes of the legislative session. Dr. Zhu offered special thanks to Sarah Luebbert for her help in organizing those activities.

**District #10** – Dr. Charles Lawson reported that Butler County has been less active in the last quarter, primarily due to the increased burden of computer records, which began in February. Dr. Lawson has decided to end his practice, along with four other physicians who have shut down their practices in the past six months. He will be doing locum tenens work as he transitions out of medicine completely, and will work with MSMA staff to bring in new representation.

**Organized Medical Staff Section** – Dr. Peggy Barjenbruch reported that she attended the OMSS meeting in Chicago in June, and encouraged members to attend and provide greater representation for Missouri. The educational session was on emerging issues in medical staff affairs. She encouraged individualizing by-laws. There was also a talk on social media, and the liability involved in texting patients. Another topic was physician burn-out in relation to data entry.

The OMSS-AMA had policy discussions, and adopted a new comprehensive set of medical staff rights and responsibilities.

**International Medical Graduate Section** – Dr. Sri Kolli reported that Dr. Angeline Stanislaus will be joining the International Medical Graduate section. She is a forensic psychiatrist, and the Chief Medical Director for Adults for the Missouri Department of Mental Health.

**Resident and Fellow Section** – Dr. Joanne Loethen thanked Haley Wansing and Liz Fleenor for the section on the website to which current and potential members can be directed. She encouraged members to engage residents and fellows, as membership drops off after the medical student level.

**Medical Student Section** – Mr. Alex Goodson reported on efforts to create recruitment through greater coordination among the chapters, more idea-sharing, and more joint events. The focus of Lobby Day was PDMP, and 40-50 students came to discuss the issue with our representatives. They are excited about promoting the physician mentorship program, and will be sending out the first round of sign-ups at Mizzou in the coming week. Drs. Johar and Lovinger will visit to explain the benefits of the program. The students want to thank those participating in the program.

**Prerogatives of the Chair** – Dr. DiRenna referred to the 2017 Physician Leadership Institute being put on by SLMMS and Anders, with involvement from Maryville University. He has personally attended the program and calls it an outstanding CME and networking program.

**Adjournment** - On motion, duly seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

**Next Council Meeting** – The next meeting will be held October 15, 2017, at the DoubleTree Hotel in Jefferson City.