



# Governor’s Organ Donation Advisory Committee Minutes

March 5, 2018



**Note taker(s):** Debra Gholson  
**Attendees:** Deb Simaitis, Virginia Beatty, Jim Pruitt, Valerie Volkart  
 By Phone: Joan Keiser, Phil Duncan, Peter Nicastro, Jan Finn, Kenny Kovacs, Sandy Hentges  
**Called by:** Deb Simaitis, Chair  
**Called to order at:** 9:39 am

## Welcome, Introductions, Agenda Approval and Minute Approval

Ms. Simaitis gave the welcome and introductions. Amended the Agenda to correct the spelling of Daniel Bogle’s name. Approved with the change.

The Minutes from the November 29, 2017, emergency meeting were approved with the following changes: on page one, second bullet, change “The Boards and Commissions Report” to “The Boards and Commissions Task Force Report;” on page one, fourth bullet, change “able to fire” to “he will be able to remove.”

The Minutes from the December 6, 2017 meeting were approved with the following changes: on page three under High School Education Project Update correct the word “meet” to “met” in the third sentence; on the same page under Keep Hope Alive change the word “has” to “have” in the first sentence. On page four, the title 2017 Missouri State Fair changed to “2018”

Action Items:	Person Responsible:	Deadline
Amend December 6, 2017 minutes	Debra Gholson	March 15, 2018
March 5, 2018 minutes due to the Chair	Virginia Beatty	Two weeks prior to the next scheduled meeting.

## Reporting of Officers/Committees

### Chair Report

- **Appointment Update** – At the December 6, 2017, meeting the Committee voted to remove Harry Ratliff as a Governor’s Organ Donation Advisory Committee (GODAC) member. An email was sent to Mr. Ratliff on December 7, 2017, explaining the removal and thanking him for his service. No response has been received from Mr. Ratliff. Ms. Beatty checked on the status of the request and is waiting for a response.
- Ms. Simaitis expressed “Congratulations” to Representative Steve Cookson for his appointment to GODAC. He has introduced HB 2129 mandating organ donation education in Missouri high schools. Mr. Nicastro asked about the fact that Representative Cookson is in an organ procurement organization position and he did not understand how he can fill that role. Ms. Simaitis explained that he is filling this position because he works closely with Kevin Lee at Mid-America Transplant. Discussion tabled until Kevin Lee can provide an explanation.
- Ms. Simaitis reported that she was at the Capitol and visited with Lt. Governor Parson, and he would like to include organ and tissue donation in one of his public service announcements (PSA) that go out twice a year. Lt. Governor Parson asked his assistant to be sure to remind him next time he is asked to provide content for the PSA to include organ and tissue donation information. Ms. Simaitis also visited with Representative Warren Love and he expressed how he was moved by the work that GODAC does, and he told Ms. Simaitis how he said “yes” for the first time to organ and tissue donation when he renewed his license.

### Dashboard Update

- Mr. Nicastro reported on the revenue trends for GODAC. He has the numbers for January and February 2018; the balance is \$717,878.47, which represents 2.5 years of cash to operate in the account. The Treasure’s Office posts the financials on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of every month. He stated that the

“Contribution Rate” should read Oct 2017 – Dec 2017 instead of Aug – Oct. The contribution rate is 5.741%, which is down from the last time. Enrollment is up and we are close to reaching three million enrollments in the donor registry. Social media has seen an increase in activity. Enrollment Events are already more than the total events in 2017. There was no unscheduled downtime reported thus far in 2018.

• **Secretarial Report**

- Financial Update – Ms. Beatty reported that total revenue is at 49% of projected income; as of January 29, 2018, the balance is \$128,484.93. Expenditures, as of January 31, 2018, were \$123,967.74. Mid-America Transplant notified the program that they would not be invoicing the \$3,000 in FY2018 as anticipated; for the year two contract. Therefore, those funds were moved to the Annual Report line. Mr. Nicastro inquired about reaching anticipated revenue goals. Ms. Beatty explained that April and May are higher revenue months and too late in the fiscal year to make changes to the projected budget. Mr. Duncan asked about the balance of bookmarks currently on hand and if there will be a need to reorder this year. The program does not anticipate ordering more bookmarks in FY2018. Mr. Nicastro asked about the Donor Registry System after-hours calls, and how often the service is used. Ms. Beatty replied that there were no calls this year and it must be maintained and manned per policy.
- Member Roster Update – Ms. Beatty reported that Representative Cookson has been added, but Harry Ratliff has not been removed as the approval has yet to be completed.

<b>Action Items:</b>	<b>Person Responsible:</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
FY19 Budget -recommendations to Virginia	Committee	April 30, 2018
Bookmark inventory and reprint cost to members	Valerie	March 15, 2018
Harry Ratliff’s status	Virginia	As soon as known.
Confidentiality agreements due to Virginia	Committee	ASAP
Explain GODAC Membership/Rep. Cookson	Kevin Lee	Add to June Agenda
Google Site & Roster	Virginia	ASAP

**Unfinished Business**

**High School Education Project Update**

Gift of Life (GOL) report, Kim Harbur sent Ms. Simaitis an email that stated that the group is working on developing an online program for high school students. Representative Cookson has introduced a bill to mandate organ, eye and tissue donation education for public high schools in the State of Missouri. If passed, the mandate would be implemented in the 2019-2020 school year. Currently the Life Savers program is in 119 schools, and GOL is in discussions with Mid-America Transplant regarding duplicating the Life Savers program in St. Louis.

**Capitol Day & Donor Family Recognition**

Ms. Simaitis reminded the members that April 10<sup>th</sup> is Capitol Day, and the Rotunda and Alcove are reserved. Mr. Nicastro is working to secure parking for the Globe, and he will provide legislator lists and district maps for the event. Ms. Simaitis asked Senator Crawford to introduce the donor families on the senate floor. The organ procurement organizations (OPOs) have agreed to provide the cookies and lunch for the families. Ms. Volkart reported on the progress of Capitol Day and Donor Family Recognition. The event itinerary is:

- 7:00-8:30 – set up exhibit tables in Rotunda and Alcove table set-up
- 8:30-2:00 – exhibit in Rotunda available to all visitors
- 9:30-9:45 – congregate on third-floor Rotunda
- 9:45-10:00 – group photo on grand staircase
- 10:00-10:30 – introduction to Senate
- 10:45-12:00 – DFR program
  - Welcome – Deb
  - Devotional – Joan

- Guest speakers – Peter and Lt. Governor Parson (at 11:30 for 10 minutes)
  - Certificates presented to families by Acting Deputy DHSS Director, Celesta Hartgraves
  - Closing – Joan
- 12:00-1:30 – lunch in Alcove (provided by OPOs)
  - 1:30-2:30 – take down exhibit tables in Rotunda and clean-up Alcove

Each participating agency will provide materials and/or giveaways. The DHSS Office of Public Information will be at the event to take photos and post to DHSS social media sites. Next planning meeting will be the first week in April. Ms. Beatty added that the Missouri Kidney Program has volunteered to escort the families around the Capitol for the event. Ms. Simaitis added that the theme for this year is “rainbows,” which is the Donate Life America theme. Ms. Simaitis reminded everyone to wear blue and green, and that legislators will receive an email to wear blue and green too.

**Proclamation 2018**

Ms. Simaitis reported that the proclamation is signed and copies will be available at Capitol Day. The original will be framed for display.

**Keep Hope Alive**

Ms. Simaitis stated that she has attempted to reach out to Boone County EMS personnel about their training program. She left a message with Danny, Curriculum Coordinator, on February 21, 2018. Called again and left a message with Brian, Curriculum Coordinator, on February 27, 2018. Ms. Simaitis has not received any response to her messages. She will continue to pursue this endeavor, and hopes to report at the next meeting.

**Sharp Media Group**

Mr. Lee was not available to report. Jan Finn did not have a report at this time.

**GODAC Training**

Ms. Volkart reported that the modules were updated and five members have completed the training.

**Missouri State Fair 2018**

Mr. Duncan reported on the plans for the parade. It was suggested that it be presented to the donor families at Capitol Day to find out how much interest there would be to participate in the parade. Ms. Simaitis suggested to Mr. Duncan that the planning and communication must be timely. If Mr. Duncan prefers to pull the Globe only, that would be great too.

**GODAC Satisfaction Survey**

Ms. Beatty reported on the outcome of the GODAC Survey. There were five participants; the questions were reviewed and the results discussed. Ms. Beatty said the focus of the program has been the Donor Registry System and any feedback and suggestions to improve the program are always welcome.

<b>Action Items:</b>	<b>Person Responsible:</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
High School Education call	Kim & Virginia	May
Capitol Days: Globe Parking	Peter	April
District Maps	Peter	April
Blue/Green request	Virginia	March
Planning Committee call	Valerie	First week of April
Sharp Media : Evaluation of Pilot Project	Kevin & Jan	June meeting
Boone County EMS follow up	Deb S.	June meeting
GODAC Training	Members	ASAP
Missouri State Fair		
Donor Float	Phil	June meeting
PSA Options	Valerie	
Exhibit Booth Options	Valerie	

**New Business**

**Director Expectations**

Ms. Simaitis stated this is a new item on our agenda. Neither Dr. Williams nor Daniel Bogle was able to join us; therefore Ms. Simaitis read a thank you note from Dr. Williams offering to help in any way possible. She also read a line from Dr. Williams' online Annual Report article, in which he encourages the committee to continue their work. Ms. Simaitis said this falls in with a plan for a brochure. She would like the committee to revisit the brochure project in the future.

### **Legislative Report**

Ms. Hentges reported that House Bill 1566 which offers a three year registration for vehicles is one to keep in mind and follow. House Bill 2129 is good news, as it adds a new section relating to public awareness of organ donation from Gift of Life, Inc., or other unbiased national programs. The public hearing for this bill was on February 26, 2018. House Bill 2548 consolidates and eliminates certain boards and commissions, which includes the Organ Donor Advisory Committee; it has been read a second time. The sponsor of this bill is Representative Jered Taylor. Mr. Nicasro explained the bill provides for a seven member Health and Senior Services Board with one member from the GODAC. He explained that the bill eliminates GODAC as it exists. He said there is nothing in the bill saying this committee will be appointed by the Director of DHSS. Ms. Simaitis reminded the committee that she met with Dr. Williams and Mr. Bogle and they assured her that this was not the case. Mr. Nicasro disagrees; he feels that this bill will make provisions as such. The bill was filed on February 22, 2018; therefore, may not have been the same wording as the bill had when Ms. Simaitis met with Dr. Williams. He also pointed out that every place in the statute that had Organ Donation Advisory Committee has been struck out and replaced with Health and Senior Services Board. Committee members in attendance expressed concern with the bill. Ms. Simaitis asked that members read the bill carefully and encouraged the members to reach out to their representatives. Ms. Beatty reminded all to reach out as individuals, not as GODAC members. Mr. Nicasro recommended the committee reach out to the Department of Health and Senior Services with their concerns. The bill should be assigned to a committee this week, so there is a need of urgency for GODAC's response. Ms. Simaitis stated that she understood that the Department of Health and Senior Services had an opportunity to testify and she does not know what was said. Ms. Kaiser stated that she feels the committee would be remiss if we did not respond as a committee and to highlight the accomplishments of the committee as well as the need for its existence. Mr. Nicasro made the recommendation to prepare a resolution Situation, Background, Assessment, Recommendation (SBAR) to the Department of Health and Senior Services' Director making GODAC'S stance known. Members also need to reach out as individuals to legislators pointing them to the public record (SBAR). Mr. Nicasro will be the lead on writing the SBAR draft and will send it to the committee for approval. Ms. Simaitis suggested an emergency meeting on Friday, March 9, 2018 via conference call at 1:00 pm. Ms. Kaiser moved to respond to HB 2548 regarding the elimination of GODAC. Mr. Duncan seconded the motion. All in Favor. Ms. Beatty abstained.

### **Continued discussion:**

Ms. Simaitis asked that everyone track when the hearings will be held and attend if possible.

Mr. Nicasro asked Ms. Hentges to find out when this will go to committee and inform GODAC members as soon as possible. She agreed. Mr. Pruitt suggested that he and Ms. Hentges talk to Mr. Bogle, as he would know when the hearings are scheduled. Ms. Simaitis also asked Mr. Pruitt and Ms. Hentges to ask Mr. Bogle for any guidance he may have.

Mr. Pruitt explained how the Department reviews fiscal notes and the official response will be posted for the public.

Mr. Nicasro asked if the testimony of the Department to the Task Force is confidential.

Mr. Pruitt will verify.

Ms. Simaitis asked if the Committee thinks that maybe Representative Taylor misinterpreted the bill?

Mr. Nicasro pointed out a line in the bill that states that the Department of Health and Senior Services can appoint a subcommittee, and it is possible this is where the misinterpretation could have been.

Ms. Simaitis asked for a meeting with Dr. Williams, and would like other members to join her.

### **Election of Officers**

Ms. Simaitis stated that per the Bylaws, a new chair and vice chair will be voted on at the next meeting.

Think of nominations for these positions. The Bylaws will also be reviewed at the next meeting.

**GODAC Recommendations**

Ms. Beatty asked the Committee for recommendations for the FY19 budget, which will be voted on at the June meeting. Ms. Kaiser said that recommendations can be sent, and if needed, amendments can be voted on at the June meeting. Members should have suggestions to Ms. Beatty by April 30, 2018, to be included in the budget.

**Enrollments-Department of Conservation**

Kevin Lee was not available. Ms. Beatty explained that the Department of Conservation’s online hunting and fishing license registration confirmation email has a message on how to enroll in the Organ Donor Registry. Ms. Kaiser suggested a letter of appreciation to the Department of Conservation. Ms. Simaitis will send a letter to the appropriate person.

**National Registry**

Kevin Lee was not available.

**Team Missouri**

Kevin Lee was not available; add to the June agenda.

<b>Action Items:</b>	<b>Person Responsible:</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
Nomination/Elections of Officers	Deb S.	June meeting
Emergency Meeting for HB 2548	Deb S. / Virginia	Friday, March 9, 2018
Department of Conservation Thank You Letter	Deb S.	ASAP
Team Missouri	Kevin	June meeting

**Partner Updates**

**Midwest Transplant Network Update (MTN)**

Jan Finn stated that MTN had 25 donors in January 2018. MTN will be recruiting a Public Relations Manager.

**Saving Sight**

Kenny Kovacs reported that Saving Sight is moving their call center to a new facility; services will not be affected. Phone numbers will remain the same. Reminder that Saving Sight recycles eye glasses through local Lions Clubs.

**Mid-America Transplant (MAT) Update/Team Missouri Update**

Mr. Lee was unavailable.

**Missouri Kidney Program (MoKP)**

Ms. Hines was unavailable.

**Gift of Life (GOL) Update**

The Golf Fore Life Isabelle Ellis Golf Classic is June 15<sup>th</sup> and GoSeeDo is September 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Department of Elementary and Secondary Education**

Ms. Rehak and Ms. Wehmeyer were unavailable. Ms. Simaitis commented that Ms. Wehmeyer is working diligently, organizing the March HOSA conference. It will be the largest ever with 1,300 students registered at this point. Mr. and Mrs. Simaitis, Ms. Volkart and Ms. Beatty are event judges and Ms. Simaitis a speaker. Mid-America Transplant is an exhibit booth sponsor and partners are collaborating to staff.

**Department of Revenue (DOR)**

Ms. Wisch was unavailable.

**Next Meeting**

**Agenda/Logistics**

Agenda	Virginia Beatty and Deb Simaitis
Poll to schedule next meeting in June	Virginia Beatty

**Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 11:55 am	Deb Simaitis, Chair
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