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**MICHIGAN RADIOLOGICAL SOCIETY**  
**A Chapter of the American College of Radiology**

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MRS Board of Trustees  
 Minutes  
 April 4, 2024  
 Zoom

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|---------|---|--|
| Present | Riffat Ahmed, MD<br>Kathleen Barry, MD, FACR<br>Gordon Beute, MD, FACR<br>James Cavanagh, JD<br>Paul Chuba, MD, PhD<br>Denise Collins, MD, FACR<br>Leah Davis, DO<br>Mark DeLano, MD, FACR<br>Randy Hicks, MD, MBA, FACR<br>Joseph Junewick, MD, FACR<br>Michael Kasotakis, MD<br>Stephan Kilanowski, MD<br>Ralph Lieto, MS, FACR<br>Danny Ma, MD<br>Michael Mahacek, MD<br>Duane Mezwa, MD, FACR | Andrew Moriarity, MD<br>Mark Pennington, MD<br>Rocky Saenz, DO<br>Shannon Sage<br>Walter Sahjidak, MD, FACR<br>Rojanandham Samudrala, MD, FACR<br>Michael Sandler, MD, FACR<br>Katharine Scharer, MD, FACR<br>Gaurang Shah, MD, FACR<br>Ashok Srinivasan, MD, FACR<br>Elias Taxakis, MD<br>Vishwas Tiwari, MD<br>Michael Votruba, MD, FACR<br>Mark Weiss, MD, FACR<br>Harvey Yee, MD<br>Alkis Zingas, MD, FACR |
| Absent  | Shadi Azar, MBBS<br>N. Reed Dunnick, MD, FACR<br>Roger Gonda Jr., MD, FACR<br>Karen Grajewski, MD<br>Ali Harb, MD<br>Brent Griffin, MD<br>John Kalabat, MD<br>Tracy King, MS  | Kate Klein, MD, FACR<br>Bakul Lather, MD<br>Sabala Mandava, MD<br>Andreea Moore, MD<br>Perry Pernicano, MD, FACR<br>Evita Singh, MD<br>Andrew Woodrow, MD  |

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Walter Sahijdak, MD, FACR, President, Michigan Radiological Society

1. **Minutes:** The minutes from the February 8, 2024, meeting were approved.

**MOTION:** To approve the minutes from the February 8, 2024, meeting. **Seconded. Motion carried.**

2. **Officer Reports:**

- a. **President's Report** – Doctor Sahijdak emphasized the critical importance of full attendance for the ACR annual meeting and reminded everyone going about the fellows' dinner. Additionally, he spoke about the annual meeting on May 4th where Doctor Saenz would assume the role of president. Doctor Sahijdak thanked the board as this would be his last meeting serving as President.
- b. **President-Elect's Report** – Doctor Saenz updated everyone on the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Medical Student Symposium coming up on May 31, 2024.

3. **Committee Reports**

- a. Bylaws – Doctor Yee presented the proposed bylaw changes to the board, after much discussion the board decided to leave the ballot section alone but adopt, he language for the annual meeting that states the annual meeting will be held “after the ACR annual meeting”.  
**MOTION:** To not accept the first change of ballot and to accept the second change of time of annual meeting. **Seconded. Motion carried.**
- b. Communications – Drs. Ma and Moriarity provided an update on the committee meeting held on February 12, 2024. They outlined proposed changes to the MRS website and social media accounts, including the addition of a "resident of the month" post and a new legislative tab on the website, along with other updates.
- c. Economics – Doctor Chuba indicated the committee's recent discussion covered several key topics in radiology, including the potential for a liaison process with BCBSM, concerns about AI's impact on economics, challenges in access to care and payment issues. It highlighted concerns about radiologist shortages, disparities in reimbursement rates, and financial losses for hospitals, exacerbated by COVID-19. Productivity challenges due to AI and growing personnel value were noted, along with discussions on BCBSM's quality initiatives and treatment consistency issues. The conversation concluded with a call for guidance from CMS and ACR, recognizing challenges in other specialties, and proposing the creation of an Advisor Board to address ongoing radiology issues.
- d. Legislative Affairs – James Cavanagh provided an update on the scope of practice legislation. Despite resistance, their opposition succeeded, and the bill was not taken forward at the moment. Additionally, James mentioned preparations for an upcoming Capitol Hill day to meet with Congressmen, promising to share talking points and recommendations for efficient visits. Finally, James discussed recently implemented ionizing rules by the Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity, noting they were imperfect but a step in the right direction. Sahijdak confirmed attendance for the upcoming Capitol Hill day.
- e. Radiation Oncology – Doctor Sahijdak spoke about revitalizing the radiation oncology community in the Michigan Radiological Society by engaging younger members and leveraging resources from ACR.

4. **MRS Foundation Update** – Doctor Kasotakis informed the board that the foundation plans to have a silent auction at the annual meeting.

5. **ACRa Grant Update** – Doctor Davis gave an update on the [www.miradiologist.com](http://www.miradiologist.com) website and encouraged board members to share posts on their own social media sites. She discussed potentially keeping the firm on permanently and/or reapplying for the grant.
6. **Old Business**
  - MRG Marketing Update & Plan – Doctor Davis gave an update on the current marketing campaign informing the board that the miradiologists.com website is now live.
7. **New Business**
8. **Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned by President, Walter Sahijdak, MD, FACR, at 6:36 p.m.

These minutes were approved by Walter Sahijdak, MD, FACR, President, Michigan Radiological Society.