

Ohio State Board of Optometry
Board Meeting

Vern Riffe Office Tower
77 S. High St., 31st Floor
Columbus, Ohio

July 11, 2007 at 9:30 a.m.

President Presiding

Gary Hyde, O.D., Board President, convened the meeting at 9:50 a.m. after signing certificates of licensure and payroll at the Board office. The meeting was held in Room East B, 31st floor of the Vern Riffe Office Tower.

Roll Call

Present for the meeting were:

Gary Hyde, O.D., Board President
Beth Workman, O.D., Board Secretary
Larry Barger, O.D., Board Member
Rhonda Riles, O.D., Board Member
Dennis Roark, O.D., Board Member
Ms. Patricia Scharf, Board Member
Mr. Mike Everhart, Executive Director
Mr. Jeff May, Investigator

The following persons were also in attendance at the meeting: Mr. Rick Cornett representing the Ohio Optometric Association, Aaron Epstein from the Attorney General's Office and Todd Baker from the Ohio Ophthalmological Society.

Approve Minutes

President Hyde called for a motion on the minutes of the May 16, 2007 Board meeting. Dr. Barger made a motion to approve the minutes that had previously been mailed to all Board members for review. Dr. Roark seconded the motion and it was passed by the Board.

New Licensees

Mr. Everhart advised that there were 62 applications for licensure as listed in Annex A. After review of the packets Dr. Riles made a motion that the applicants listed in Annex A be granted Ohio optometric and therapeutic licensure. The motion was seconded by Dr. Workman and passed by the Board.

Dr. Roark made a motion to approve applicant Kristina Haworth, O.D. for Ohio optometric and therapeutic licensure contingent upon receipt of licensure verification from the State of California and applicant Ritesh Patel, O.D. upon verification of CPR training. The motion was seconded by Dr. Riles and passed by the Board.

The Board next reviewed one applicant for licensure reinstatement. Dr. Roark moved that Holly Lewton, O.D. be granted reinstatement of her Ohio optometric and therapeutic license which was seconded by Dr. Barger and passed by the Board.

Continuing Education

Dr. Riles explained the recap on continuing education courses received at the Board office since the May 16, 2007 meeting. (Annex B.) There were 25 courses reviewed with one of those courses only approved in part.

Dr. Workman made a motion that courses 2007-189P through 2007-214P be approved as listed. Motion was seconded by Dr. Roark and passed by the Board.

Therapeutic Optometry Matters

There were no Drug-Induced Side Effect reports received since the past Board meeting.

Licensure Matters

President Hyde called for a motion for the Board to enter Executive Session to consider the investigation of charges or complaints against a licensee. Dr. Roark moved that the Board enter Executive Session to consider the investigation of charges or complaints against a licensee. Mr. Epstein, Mr. Everhart and Mr. May were requested to remain in the room. Dr. Workman seconded the motion.

Mr. Everhart was directed to take a roll call vote. President Hyde, yes; Secretary Workman, yes; Dr. Roark, yes; Dr. Riles, yes; Dr. Barger, yes; Ms. Scharf, yes. The motion was passed and the Board entered Executive Session at 10:01 a.m.

At the conclusion of Executive Session Dr. Hyde called for a motion to move back into open session. Dr. Barger moved that the Board end this Executive Session and move back into open meeting. Dr. Riles seconded the motion.

Mr. Everhart was again directed to take a roll call vote. President Hyde, yes; Secretary Workman, yes; Dr. Roark, yes; Dr. Riles, yes; Dr. Barger, yes; Ms. Scharf, yes. The motion was passed and the Board returned to open session at 10:35 a.m.

Administration

Dr. Hyde provided an overview of a few of the highlights from his attendance at the ARBO conference. He discussed issues related to the change in the format of NBEO

testing, disciplinary issues, and matters affecting some of the other states. He also briefly talked about the development of medicated contact lenses and how that might impact the current scope bill.

Dr. Barger advised his attendance at ARBO was beneficial. He explained his involvement in COPE and solicited other Board members to become more directly involved. Dr. Barger talked about the federal scrutiny of continuing education courses based on corporate/private sponsorship. He emphasized the auditing of continuing education courses to ensure the actual presentations are what was initially approved. He also stated that approximately 20% of Ohio optometrists are registered at the O.E. Tracker website for compilation of their continuing education courses.

Mr. Rick Cornett updated the Board on the passage of HB 149 related to the changes in the optometric law. The bill passed the House by a vote of 91 to 5. He also discussed HB 125 the Health Simplification Act and the state's budget bill.

Mr. Everhart provided the Board with the latest update on the theft of the state data along with copies of the two news releases from the Governor's office.

A.A.G. Aaron Epstein reported that he had completed his review on the matter related to the Board not collecting the annual renewal fees for Ohio licensed optometrists on active military duty. Based on his research and language contained in "War and National Defense Servicemembers Civil Relief Act" the Board could waive the annual renewal fee for those Ohio licensed optometrists currently serving on active duty. Mr. Epstein did recommend that a follow-up be maintained with these active duty persons to ensure their status had not changed in the previous twelve months.

Patient Complaint Investigations

The Board members reviewed the recap of patient complaints received since the May 16, 2007 Board meeting. Five new complaints were received during this period with one of the complaints being finalized. Four complaints were pending prior to the May 16, 2007 meeting and one was completed prior to this meeting with three pending further investigation. (Annex C.)

The Investigator's Activity Report, Annex D, was reviewed by the Board members. In addition to the five complaints that were filed, eleven on site inspections were conducted and two office inquiries/office complaints were initiated and completed. The staff traveled 938 miles during the period. The Board members also reviewed the summary of completed complaints and had no questions concerning the complaints.

Optometric Advertising Violations

There were no advertising violations to discuss.

Other Investigative Matters

This item was covered during the Executive Session.

Approve Expenses

A motion was made by Dr. Riles and seconded by Dr. Roark to approve the Board member expenses for this meeting. The motion was passed by the Board.

Dates of the Next Board Meetings

The next Board meeting date is October 17, 2007.

Adjourn

Dr. Roark made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Dr. Workman. The Board passed the motion and the meeting adjourned at 11:32 a.m.