

**TENNESSEE BOARD OF DISPENSING OPTICIANS
MEETING MINUTES**

DATE: August 6, 2014

TIME: 9:00 A.M., CDT

LOCATION: Health Related Boards Conference Center
Poplar Room
665 Mainstream Dr
Nashville, TN 37243

BOARD MEMBERS

PRESENT: Donald Wells, DPO, Chairman
LeRhonda Walton-Hill, DPO, Secretary
Kimberly Jackson, DPO
Felda Stacy, DPO
Greg DeCrow, DPO

BOARD MEMBER

ABSENT: Edward Risby, Consumer Member

STAFF

PRESENT: Charles Custer, Interim Board Administrator
Teddy Wilkins, Unit 1 Director
Matt Gibbs, Office of General Counsel, Assistant General Counsel

Mr. Wells, Board Chair called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. and introduced Greg DeCrow as a new Board member and declared a quorum.

OGC Report

Mr. Gibbs stated there are currently seven (7) open cases for discipline in the Office of General Counsel. There are no Consent Orders or contested cases to be presented to the Board of Dispensing Opticians at this time.

The proposed rules heard on February 4, 2014, are undergoing review at the Attorney General's Office as of July 31, 2014. Once approved, the rules will be filed with the Secretary of State. They will take effect 90 days after the date of filing.

A rulemaking discussion should be conducted to determine the exact language the Board would like to adopt as it pertains to how the one (1) hour of jurisprudence CE credit may be obtained by attending a regularly scheduled Board of Dispensing Optician's board meeting. Mr. Gibbs asked

the Board members to review Option #1 and Option #2 and determine which one they preferred. The Board members requested Option #1 and the language to be revised stating, “The morning session shall be not less than 50 minutes”.

Investigative Report

Ms. Denise Moran introduced the new disciplinary coordinator Rachel Talley for the Nursing Board. There are (3) open cases in the field being investigated.

The Investigations Department advised the Board that they are working on adding an extra report to show how much money from fines and civil penalties has been collected in a particular timeframe.

Administrator Report

There are 860 active licensed dispensing opticians and 411 active apprentices. From May 15, 2014 to July 31, 2014, there were six (6) new apprentice licensees, thirteen (13) newly licensed dispensing options, two (2) licenses were retired, two (2) licensees failed to renew, and there are no new deceased licensees reported.

Ms. Wilkins stated there is an upcoming Board member training session on August 19, 2014 at the Labor and Workforce Development building.

Newly Licensed

Ms. Walton-Hill made a motion, seconded by Ms. Jackson, to approve the following newly licensees: The motion carried.

**Courtney Backlund
Bridgit Cook
Debbie Howard
David Parks
Jeannine M. Steele
Matthew Townsend**

**Tiffany Blevins
Erin Gunter
Misty Koon
Serene Simon
Mariah Stone
Tammy Weatherly**

Reinstatement Applications

Ms. Stacey made a motion, seconded by Ms. Walton-Hill, to approve the following reinstated applicant. The motion carried.

Robert Carl Marshall

Requests to Sit for the Practical Exam

Ms. Hawkins made a motion, seconded by Ms. Jackson to approve the following dispensing optician applicants to sit for the practical examination:

Gay Grimme

Lindsey Lowe

Apprentice Program Requests

Ms. Hawkins made a recommendation to accept the other names applying for the apprentice training program. Ms. Hawkins made a motion, seconded by Ms. Jackson. The motion carried.

Ashley Bevins
Charleen Hickey
Glenda Speight

Ronda Harvell
Kristin Kirk
Kelsey Szymanski

Correspondence

Jessica Juen sent an email with questions regarding opening her own practice with a Mobile Clinic. The Board stated so long as she licensed, has a place of business and wears her badge she can perform as a dispensing optician.

Ms. Wilkins received a letter from Florida with no name, no return address and was unsigned regarding pupillary distance measurement with the testing agency.

Mr. Wells responding to an email from Sheri Patterson about segment heights, Mr. Wells did some research and could not find a definite answer about measuring segment heights.

Continuing Education

Shukur Tairov submitted a letter asking the Board to review certificate hours he submitted to count toward his apprenticeship program. The board responded the apprentice hours have to be done under direct supervision, pursuant to rule 0480-01-.14(2) . The Board denied the request.

Cindy Castle faxed a request for continuing education course on July 15, 2014, for South Eastern Optician's Conference in Kentucky to be held on July 18,19 & 20, 2014. The deadline for pre-approval requests is 30 days prior to the Board meeting. Ms. Walton-Hill made a motion, seconded by Ms. Stacey to deny the CE request. The motion carried.

William Wilkerson faxed a request for a continuing education course on July 15, 2014, for Optician's Association of Georgia on September 13 & 14, 2014. The deadline for pre-approval requests is 30 days prior to the Board meeting, Ms. Walton-Hill made a motion, seconded by Ms. Jackson to deny the CE request. The motion carried.

Jurisprudence Examination

The continuing education requirement for 2014 is:

Four (4) ABO hours

Two (2) NCLE hours

Two (2) optional hours ABO/NCLE

No jurisprudence required.

Ms. Stacey made a motion, seconded by Ms. Walton-Hill to approve the CE requirements for 2015. The motion carried.

Apprenticeship Evaluation Form

The Semi-Evaluation Form needs the language cleaned up, add affidavit and remove transcripts on the form. Ms. Stacey made a motion, seconded by Ms. Jackson to have the form revised as stated. The motion carried.

Practical Examination

Mr. Wells talked about segment height and the practical examination report on the percentage rate for passing or failing. Roy Ferguson handed four (4) references that NCSORB uses for the practical examination. Mr. Wells talked about attending the Nashville convention in September 2014, hoping to talk with the company that gives the practical examination. Ms. Wilkins stated the candidates get a training manual for the practical examination.

New Business

NCSORB sent a research survey; Mr. Custer wanted the Board to see it for information only. Ms. Stacey stated NCSORB send it out in an email.

Board Consultant: Mr. Custer asked Mr. Gibbs for the qualifications for a Board Consultant. Mr. Gibbs stated under rule 0480-01-.19(5) the Board has authority to select a Board consultant and there are no other qualifications. Ms. Stacey stated there are three (3) consultants listed on file; Ms. Stacey, Elizabeth Simon Bhryn and Randy Dishman. Ms. Wilkins stated Ms. Hawkins volunteered to be a consultant. Ms. Walton-Hill made a motion to have Ms. Hawkins a consultant for the Board of Dispensing Opticians, seconded by Ms. Stacey. The motion carried.

Financial Reports: Ms. Stacey requested the financial reports be emailed to the Board members. Ms. Wilkins stated on June 24, 2014 this Board went to the Government Operations Committee for a sunset review and that this Board has been recommended for a 6 year extension. Ms. Hawkins appeared on behalf of the board.

With no other Board business to discuss, Mr. DeCrow made a motion, seconded by Ms. Walton-Hill to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 11:02 PM.

Ratified by the Board on January 28, 2015