



SC DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, LICENSING AND REGULATION

**South Carolina Board of Examiners in Opticianry**

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**Minutes of the South Carolina Board of Examiners in Opticianry**

January 20, 2008

Embassy Suites, Columbia, South Carolina

Board Members Present: Daniel B. Gosnell, Chairman  
C. Milton Corley, Jr., Vice Chairman  
Leonard B. Harrington  
William M. Whitlock  
James L. Rhodes

Board Member Excused: Debra Johnson Austin, Ph.D., Consumer Member

Consumer Member: One Vacancy

SCLLR Staff Present: Angie M. Combs, Board Administrator

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The regular session of the South Carolina Board of Examiners in Opticianry was held on January 20, 2008, Embassy Suites, Columbia, South Carolina. Whereas, proper notice of date, time, place having been properly provided to THE STATE NEWSPAPER and ASSOCIATED PRESS and proper notice also having been posted at the LLR Office Building 24 hours prior to the time scheduled for the meeting and a quorum having been determined, Chairman Gosnell called the meeting to order at 8:38 a.m.

For information purposes: Immediately prior to this meeting the Board was present at the South Carolina Opticians Association meeting to update the members on Board activities and to be available for questions. The Association presented the J. Dan Gosnell Award to Ms. Jan Standard for receiving the highest score on the South Carolina Licensing Examination in 2007 among candidates that qualified by completing the apprenticeship program and taking the examination for the first time.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda. The motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion was made by Mr. Corley and seconded by Mr. Whitlock to approve the December 5, 2007 minutes as written. The motion carried.

**CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS:** Chairman Gosnell welcomed all present and reserved further remarks for within the context of the meeting.

**REPORTS / INFORMATION:** In the administrative report, Ms. Combs reported licensee totals to be 448 licensed opticians and 181 licensed contact lens dispensers for a total of 629 licensees; there are 93 currently registered apprentices. The financial report is available upon request. Mr. Rhodes requested a copy for review.

**REPORTS / INFORMATION** *continued*

**S.C. Practical Examination:** Ms. Combs reported that twenty-four candidates sat for the December 5, 2007 S.C. Practical Examination; sixteen candidates passed and eight candidates failed to pass. Breakdown of results: four candidates failed Neutralization, two candidates failed Prescription Interpretation, and five candidates failed Frame Fitting / Lens Measure.

**Continuing Education Audit:** Sixty-five licensees and twelve apprentices were sent an audit letter requesting proof of attending required continuing education be submitted to the Board office.

**Statement of Economic Interests Form:** Ms. Combs announced the Statement of Economic Interests Form is due April 15, 2008. This year the form can be completed online. Reportable per diem income amounts were provided to each member; a reminder will be issued as the deadline approaches.

**National Committee of State Opticianry Regulatory Boards Meeting (NCSORB):** NCSORB will hold its annual meeting in Charleston, S.C. January 25-26, 2008. Mr. Gosnell will represent South Carolina at this meeting.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Requirements Reminder Letter to Apprentices:** Ms. Combs presented to the Board the letter that will be sent as a reminder to apprentices that formal education is a required part of the apprenticeship program. The Board approved the letter and requested a copy of the continuing education policy be included.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**License Reinstatement without Personal Appearance:** Ms. Combs asked the Board to consider waiving the personal appearance requirement for a reinstatement request due to the hardship of long distance travel that would be involved. Ms. Combs reviewed the situation with Ms. Dantzler, Board's Advice Attorney. Ms. Dantzler advised that "appearance" does not necessarily mean physically standing before the Board and this situation could be classified a hardship case to appear due to the distance required to travel to a Board meeting. The Board agreed to review the reinstatement application without appearance. Ms. Combs will inform the candidate for reinstatement that the Board will review her reinstatement application at a future Board meeting without her physical presence.

**Board Member Election in 2008:** The Board member term currently being held by Mr. Whitlock will expire September 13, 2008. A notice of the Board term expiring and the upcoming election will be mailed to all currently licensed opticians. Ms. Combs was directed to mail the notice June 1.

**Election of Board Officers / Investigative Review Committee (IRC) Members:** Ms. Combs stated that per South Carolina Opticianry Regulation 96-102. officers of the Board shall be elected from among its members at the first meeting of each calendar year. Currently, Mr. Gosnell serves as Chairman and Mr. Corley serves as Vice Chairman. Mr. George Lee and Mr. Lee Carter serve on the IRC. **Motion:** A motion was made by Mr. Harrington and seconded by Mr. Whitlock to continue with the same officers and IRC members. The motion carried.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next general Board meeting will be held May 4, 2008, Kingston Plantation, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

There being no further business, Chairman Gosnell adjourned the meeting at 9:40 a.m.

Minutes of the January 20, 2008 meeting transcribed and submitted by Angie M. Combs, Administrator.