

**SOUTH CAROLINA BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN OPTICIANRY
BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

November 3, 2022 at 9:00 A.M.

110 Centerview Drive, Kingstree Building, Room 204
Columbia, South Carolina

Public Notice of this meeting was properly posted at the Opticianry Board Office, Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building, and provided to all requesting persons, organizations, and news media in compliance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act, Section 30-4-80.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Keith Hayes, Chairman
Grant Brown, Vice Chairman
Daniel B. Gosnell
Emily Mikell
James Rhodes
Hollis Inabinet

SCLLR STAFF PRESENT:

Mary League, Esq., Office of Advice Counsel
Jacquelyn White, Program Coordinator
Robbie Boland, Assistant Deputy Director of Office of Board Services
Ervin Bonds, Office of Investigations and Enforcement
Kasey Williams, Office of Investigations and Enforcement

PRESENT:

Robin Reibold, Court Reporter
Brian Diener, Optical Training Institute
Brianna Cuenca, Optical Training Institute
Ron Harbert, SCAO
Wesley Scott, SCAO

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Hayes, Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

Motion: To call the meeting to order.
Mikell/Rhodes/Approved.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: To approve the agenda.
Grant/Mikell/Approved.

BOARD MISSION AND MEMBER STATISTICS

Mr. Hayes presented the mission statement of the Board and provided information regarding filled, expired and vacant Board seats. At this time, there is one vacant seat; the Public Member. A call for election was held for the Board seat term expiring September 13, 2022. Mr. Daniel

Gosnell was elected and his information was submitted to the Governor's office on August 22, 2022.

INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS

The Board members, along with visitors, introduced themselves.

APPROVAL EXCUSED ABSENCES

There were no absences.

APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Board Meeting – August, 2022

Motion: To approve

Gosnell/Brown/Approved.

STAFF REPORT

Administrator Report

Ms. White reported to date, the Board has (529) active in-state optician licensees, (53) active out-state optician licensees, (226) active in-state contact lens dispensing licensees, (22) active out-state contact lens dispensing licensees, (160) active registered apprentices, (8) select inactive opticians in state, (16) select inactive out-state, (2) select inactive in-state contact lens dispensing, (10) select inactive out-state contact lens dispensing, (0) select inactive registered apprentices, (4) pending in-state opticians, and (4) pending registered apprentices. There were (10) optician in-state licenses issued, (1) optician out-state licenses issued, (4) contact lens dispensing optician in-state licenses issued, (1) contact lens dispensing optician out-state licenses issued, (11) registered apprentices issued.

The Board's current balance as of September 30, 2022 is \$135,804.90.

Office of Investigations and Enforcement Report Statistical Report

On behalf of Mr. Sanders, Mr. Bonds reported for the period July 19, 2022 to October 25, 2022, there is (1) active investigation, (0) closed cases and (3) complaints received.

Investigative Review Committee Report

On behalf of Mr. Sanders, Mr. Bonds reported (2) cases for dismissal.

Motion: To accept (2) cases for dismissal.

Grant/Mikell/Approved.

Office of Disciplinary Counsel Report

On behalf of Ms. Sutusky, Esq., Ms. White reported (0) open cases, pending hearings or agreements, pending closures, closed cases, and appeals. As of January 1, 2022 and July 21, 2022, (0) cases have been closed.

NEW BUSINESS

Formal Education Review Request: Optical Training Institute

Mr. Diener presented a presentation overview of the Optician Development Program through the Optical Training Institute. Mr. Diener provided that it is a 2-year program at the cost of \$900.

Upon completion, the students will receive a certificate. The program is digitally based and the progress of each student can be tracked. Currently, Arizona and Alaska have approved the program, which will launch in 2023.

Motion: To approve Ms. Mikell and Mr. Brown to review program for possible Board approval
Inabinet/Rhodes/Approved.

Guidance Regarding Licensees Who Obtain Required Annual CE Hours Biennially

Ms. League, Esq., reported some Licensees are completing their (8) biennial CE hours in (1) year, instead of dividing and completing (4) hours each year. Mr. Hayes stated that Licensees are to complete (4) hours per year plus (1) hour of contact lenses. Mr. Brown was selected to review Licensees that are not able to complete the (4) hours annually on an individual bases. Any questions regarding a Licensee's CE hours, would come before the Board.

Motion: To approve Mr. Brown as Liaison for CE Approval
Inabinet/Mikell/Approved.

Approval for Amendments to Regulations 96-104, 96-107, and 96-108

Motion: To approve as presented.
Inabinet/Rhodes/Approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcements

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: To adjourn.
Brown/Gosnell/Approved.

The Board meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m.