

South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (LLR)
South Carolina Board of Examiners in Optometry
Conference Call Board Meeting Minutes
August 9, 2006

Public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the Board office and provided to any requesting persons, organizations, or news media in compliance with Section 30-4-80 of the 1976 South Carolina Code, as amended, relating to the Freedom of Information Act. A quorum was present at all times. Dr. Hamill called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PARTICIPATING IN CONFERENCE CALL:

Dr. David W. Hamill, President
Dr. Kenneth M. Nash, Vice President
Dr. Robert Neal Williams
Dr. Deborah A. Long
Dr. Furman Mason Smith

BOARD MEMBER NOT PARTICIPATING IN CONFERENCE CALL:

Isaac L. Johnson, Jr., Public Member of the Board

One Board Member Position is Vacant

SCLLR STAFF PARTICIPATING IN CONFERENCE CALL:

Angie M. Combs, Administrator

The agenda for the August 9, 2006 Conference Call Board Meeting was presented for review and approval. A **motion** was made to accept the Agenda. The motion was seconded and passed.

TPA Upgrade Requirements for Out-of-State TPA Optometrists: Ms. Combs requested a review of the method of upgrading to TPA Certification for those licensees that are already TPA in another state. Currently they are required to complete the endorsement licensure process. Discussion followed. The Board concurred that to upgrade to TPA Certification the licensee must currently be working as a TPA optometrist, must be in good standing in the state currently working, must have taken a TPA examination, and be reviewed by a Board member, currently that is Dr. Nash.

Application and Jurisprudence Examination Fee: In light of the Board interest in joining the Recovering Professional Program (RPP) and possible additional travel expenses, a way to increase revenue was discussed. The Board agreed to increase the application / examination fee from \$400.00 to \$700.00. Ms. Combs was directed to implement the fee increase.

Wall Certificate Fee: Ms. Combs suggested to the Board to add the wall certificate fee to the application / examination fee. This will make the application process easier for the candidate and also for staff processing an application. The Board agreed to this change.

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S.C. Jurisprudence Examination Administration Process: Dr. Hamill reviewed with the Board the current method of administering the S.C. Jurisprudence Examination to candidates for licensure. The examination is currently being offered four times a year at the Board office in Columbia, S.C. Dr. Hamill had presented another method of administering the examination at the July 12, 2006 Board meeting. This method allowed the candidates to take the examination at home. The questions would be varied and worded in such a way to assure that the candidate did review the Optometry Law. Discussion followed. The majority of the Board members felt that the candidates should continue to take the examination in person and Board members should be present. A **Motion** was made to maintain offering the written S.C. Jurisprudence Examination that requires candidates to appear at the examination location, and when practical, at least two Board members to be present at the administration of the examination. The motion was seconded and passed.

Dr. Hamill thanked everyone for their time and efforts to participate in this conference call meeting.

There being no further business or announcements, Dr. Hamill adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angie M. Combs
Administrator