

South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (LLR)
South Carolina Board of Examiners in Optometry
Regular Meeting Minutes
December 10, 2009
Marriott Resort, Grande Dunes
Myrtle Beach, South Carolina

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. Williams called the meeting to order at 12:40 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dr. Robert Neal Williams, President
Dr. Kenneth M. Nash, Vice President
Dr. William W. Spearman
Dr. Thomas E. Tucker
Dr. Derek P. Van Veen

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT / Excused:

Isaac L. Johnson, Jr., Public Member

VACANT POSITION: One Public Member

SCLLR STAFF PRESENT: Angie M. Combs, Administrator

ALSO PRESENT:

Dr. Philip Flynn, S.C. Optometric Physicians Association Executive Committee

The Agenda for the December 10, 2009 Regular Board Meeting was presented for review and approval.

A **motion** was made to accept the Agenda. The motion was seconded and passed.

A **motion** was made to accept the September 30, 2009 minutes as emailed. The motion was seconded and passed.

REPORTS / INFORMATION

Licensee / Complaint Totals: Ms. Combs reported there are 725 South Carolina licensed optometrists; ten new licenses have been issued since the September 30, 2009 meeting. There are two complaints currently under investigation and one hearing pending.

Branch Office Applications: None to review.

A list of the **2010 Board meeting dates** was provided to the Board.

Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry (ARBO) 91st Annual Meeting: The ARBO meeting is being held in Orlando, Florida June 13-15, 2010. The Board requested Ms. Combs to check on the status of gaining travel approval for member(s) and administrator to attend.

REPORTS / INFORMATION CONTINUED:

Board Member Election: A notice of two upcoming Board member vacancies with an election being held December 11, 2009 was sent to all South Carolina licensed optometrists. Ms. Combs and Board members will conduct the election during and immediately following the S.C. Optometric Physicians Association business meeting.

Investigative Review Committee (IRC) Report: Three complaints came before the IRC held November 19, 2009. A brief synopsis of each complaint along with the logic for each IRC recommendation was presented to the Board. The recommendations are as follows:

Complaint #2009-5 / dismiss due to no violation of the Practice Act.

Complaint #2009-8 / dismiss due to no violation of the Practice Act.

Complaint #2009-4 / dismiss with a letter of caution

Motion: A motion was made to accept IRC recommendations concerning Complaint #2009-4, Complaint #2009-5, and Complaint #2009-8. The motion was seconded. The motion carried.

Continuing Education Course Approval: No courses presented for review.

Travel Reimbursement: Ms. Combs reminded members there would be no travel reimbursement for this meeting due to a Budget Proviso that prohibits travel reimbursements for meetings held in locations other than offices of LLR.

NEW BUSINESS

Applicant by Endorsement with CELMO Certificate: A candidate for licensure that possesses a current CELMO Certificate inquired if all application documentation would need to be submitted. To apply for S.C. licensure an official optometry school transcript, National Board examination scores, and license verification when applicable, are required along with completing the application form. Ms. Combs will contact ARBO concerning their required documentation for a CELMO Certificate prior to a determination being made.

Pupillary Distance Measurement (PD) on Spectacle Prescription / Inquiry: The PD measurement is not part of a written prescription.

Colorado Optometric Association Letter – Action on Board Certification: This letter included a request to refrain from taking action regarding Board Certification until all relevant information was presented; the Board concluded that it had previously decided to take this stance.

ARBO News Release Regarding COPE Standards for Commercial Support: The ARBO Board of Directors approved the timeline for release of the new COPE Standards for commercial support with release on or before January 2, 2010.

Board Official Recognition / Certification for Attendees of Specific Courses: Deferred; Ms. Combs to gather information concerning this issue.

Nominate Board Officers / Review Investigative Review Committee (IRC) Members: The Board agreed that Dr. Williams will continue to serve as President and Dr. Spearman will serve as Vice President. Dr. Wayne Cannon and Dr. Tim Stafford will continue serving as IRC members.

Discussion was held concerning allowing continuing education obtained at the August 2010 S.C. Optometric Physicians Association education seminar to be used to meet the October 1, 2012 renewal requirement. Ms. Combs will gather information prior to a determination being made.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Board will attend the SCOPA Business Meeting to include Board member elections, December 11, 2009, 11:00 a.m., Marriott Resort, Myrtle Beach, S.C.

There being no further business or announcements, Dr. Williams adjourned the meeting at 2:45 p.m.

Meeting minutes transcribed by Angie M. Combs, Administrator, and presented to the Board for approval.