

South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (LLR)
Board of Examiners in Optometry
Board Minutes
August 1, 2012
Synergy Business Park
110 Centerview Drive, Kingstree Building, Room 204
Columbia, 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 3:04 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dr. Robert Neal Williams, President
Dr. William W. Spearman, Vice President
Dr. Derek Van Veen
Dr. Thomas E. Tucker
Isaac L. Johnson, Jr., Esquire, Public Board Member

BOARD MEMBER ABSENT:

Dr. Peter V. Candela

VACANT POSITION:

Public Member (One)

SCLLR STAFF PRESENT:

James Saxon, Esquire, Office of Advice Counsel
Angie M. Combs, Administrator
For IRC Report and OGC Report:
David Love, Chief Investigator, Office of Investigations and Enforcement
Cheryl McNair, Investigator, Office of Investigations and Enforcement
Erin Baldwin, Esquire, Office of General Counsel
Princess Hodges, Esquire, Office of General Counsel

PRESENT:

Carla S. Dominick, Professional Court Reporter, Creel Court Reporting

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: A **motion** was made by Dr. Tucker to accept the order of the August 1, 2012 Agenda. The motion was seconded by Dr. Spearman and carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A **motion** was made by Dr. Van Veen to accept the May 2, 2012 minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Dr. Tucker and carried unanimously.

OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS AND ENFORCEMENT REPORT AND INVESTIGATIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT: Mr. Love presented the Office of Investigations and Enforcement (OIE) Statistical Report. The Board accepted this report as information.

Mr. Love provided the Investigative Review Committee (IRC) Report. It was recommended to Dismiss with a Cease and Desist, Cases #2012-12, #2012-13, #2012-14, #2012-15, #2012-18, and Dismiss with a Letter of Caution Case #2010-10. A **motion** was made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Dr. Van Veen, and unanimously carried to accept the recommendations of the IRC.

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT: Ms. Baldwin reported there were no outstanding cases in the Office of General Counsel.

REPORTS / INFORMATION

Information was provided concerning the following topics:

- Licensee Totals – there are 818 South Carolina optometrists with a current license; 519 are practicing in South Carolina.
- 2012 License Renewal – due date is October 1, 2012.
- Financial Report provided – accepted as information.
- Branch Registrations – A **motion** was made by Dr. Spearman, seconded by Dr. Tucker, and unanimously carried to approve the applications for a branch office location for Dr. Shivali Desai and Dr. Robert Smith.
- Executive Session Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Requirements Review – a copy of the FOIA was provided.

A **motion** was made by Dr. Spearman, seconded by Dr. Van Veen, and unanimously carried to go into Executive Session for legal advice. No votes or actions were taken while in Executive Session.

- Insurance Reserve Fund Class – information provided concerning an upcoming class to be held September 14, 2012.
- Continuing Education (CE) Course Approval - discussion ensued.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – No business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Optometry Continuing Education Accreditation – COPE Provider Model Resolution 2012 was presented. Discussion ensued.
2. Temporary License for Military Spouse – information provided concerning this new law. A **motion** was made by Dr. Spearman, seconded by Dr. Tucker, and unanimously carried for applicants seeking a temporary license by meeting the requirements outlined in South Carolina Law, Section 40-1-77(A)(B)(C), are to be subject to Board review for approval of a temporary license.

Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry (ARBO) National Meeting – Dr. Williams provided an overview of topics discussed at the meeting. Discussions ensued.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Dr. Spearman, and unanimously carried to go into Executive Session for legal advice. No votes or actions were taken while in Executive Session.

A **motion** was made by Dr. Spearman, seconded by Dr. Tucker, and unanimously carried to have Ms. Combs inquire how other states are addressing applicants for licensure that have been away from active practice for a period of time prior to granting licensure.

The next Board meeting will be November 7, 2012.

A **motion** was made by Dr. Spearman, seconded by Dr. Tucker, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Williams adjourned the meeting at 4:58 p.m.

These minutes are a record of the official actions taken by the Board and a brief summary of the meeting.