

GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY
Board Meeting Minutes
Professional Licensing Boards
237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, GA
October 24, 2012
10:00 a.m.

Board Members Present

Robert McCullough
Karen Canupp
Betty Ann Lindsey
Jody Whisenant
Jerry Prchal
Whitman Lord

Staff Present

Stephanie Mason, Assistant Attorney General
Lisa Durden, Division Director
Tanja Battle, Executive Director
Tamara Elliott, Board Support Specialist

Open Session

Dr. McCullough established a quorum and called the meeting to order at 10:06a.m.

Presentation by Deputy Secretary of State Kelly Farr

Deputy Kelly Farr presented a PowerPoint Presentation on PLB Revenues and Budget. Deputy Farr discussed call center statistics as well as staffing which has been reduced from 126 employees in 2008 to 87. Also discussed was the new requirement of secure and verifiable documents which has resulted in manually processing approximately 250,000 renewals a year, a process which had previously been automatic for the majority of licensees and what a burden this has been on staff. Deputy Farr thanked the Board for its service and the time allotted him.

Approval of Minutes from the July 25, 2012 Board Meeting

Betty Lindsey made a motion to approve the Board minutes. Karen Canupp seconded the motion and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Report of Licenses Issued July 19, 2012-October 23, 2012

Tabled for further discussion in Executive Session.

Correspondence from Joel C. Jenkins-No position

The Board discussed correspondence from Dr. Jenkins regarding Board Certification in marketing and advertisement. The Board voted to send a letter of response stating it has no position regarding this matter.

Correspondence from Laura Lachell

The Board discussed correspondence from Laura Lachell regarding using a licensed Optometrist at a Job Corp site. The Board voted to send a letter of response stating that if the Optometrist is practicing in the state of Georgia on a non-federal property, the Optometrist must have a Georgia license.

Discussion: Malpractice Insurance

The Board discussed the correspondence regarding whether or not an applicant licensed in Georgia but not practicing in Georgia should have insurance. The Board voted to send a response stating that an applicant does not have to have malpractice insurance if he or she is not practicing in the state of Georgia, however if he or she decided to practice in the State of Georgia proof of insurance is required.

Discussion: O.D. after name

The Board discussed the correspondence regarding use of “O.D.” after name without a valid license. The Board discussed that there is no code to prohibit the use of “O.D.”; Dr. McCullough suggested that Dr. Canupp and Dr. Prchal draft a rule with appropriate language to address this issue.

Discussion: Optometrist Employment

The Board discussed the correspondence regarding Optometrist being employed by a corporation and the posting of their work hours. The Board voted to send a letter of response and Refer to Rule 430-4-.01.

Discussion: CE credit for volunteer work

The Board discussed the CE topic and voted to not accept CE credit for volunteer work.

Discussion: Charging for dilation

The Board discussed charging for dilation and there is no rule regarding this topic.

ARBO’s OE TRACKER Committee

Dr. McCullough will ask if former Board Member Kemp will serve on the ARBO committee, if not, he suggests Dr. Jerry Prchal volunteer to serve and Dr. Prchal accepted.

2013 Optometry Board Meeting Dates

The Board accepted the 2013 Board Meeting dates with the amended date change from April 3rd to April 10th.

Correspondence from Calvin Dalton

The Board discussed the correspondence and asks that he be more specific and lists the exact codes he is referring to in order for the Board to make a decision.

Dr. Whitman Lord made a motion, Dr. Jerry Prchal seconded, and the Board voted to enter into Executive Session in accordance with O.C.G.A. §43-1-19(h)(2) and 43-1-2(k) to deliberate on enforcement matters and to receive information on investigative reports and the Assistant Attorney General’s report. Voting in favor of the motion were those present who included Robert McCullough, Karen Canupp, Betty Ann Lindsey, Jody Whisenant, Jerry Prchal, and Whitman Lord.

Executive Session

The Board discussed the following:

Applications:

1. B.D.S.
2. H.K.S.
3. W.J.K.
4. L.E.F.

Ratification list discussion

Cognizant/Investigative Report- Jody Whisenant

OPT120012
OPT130001
OPT130003
OPT130005
OPT130006

No further discussion

Dr. McCullough concluded Executive Session, in which no votes were taken, and declared the meeting back in Open Session.

OPEN SESSION

VOTE:

Jody Whisenant made a motion, Whitman Lord seconded and the Board voted unanimously to accept the Report of Licenses Issued July 19, 2012-October 23, 2012.

Karen Canupp made a motion, Jody Whisenant seconded and the Board voted unanimously to accept the following recommendations based on deliberations in Executive Session:

Applications:

1. B.D.S.-approved
2. H.K.S.-approved
3. W.J.K. -approved
4. L.E.F.-schedule for appearance in January; submit all treatment records for all facilities he has been treated in within the last 6 months

Betty Lindsey made a motion, Jerry Prchal seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to accept the following:

Cognizant/Investigative Report

OPT120012-Close with LOC
OPT130001-Close with no violation
OPT130003-Close with no violation
OPT130005-Close with no violation
OPT130006-Close with no violation

No further discussion

No more business was discussed and the meeting adjourned at 1:22pm

The next Optometry Board meeting will be on Wednesday, January 23, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. at the Office of the Professional Licensing Boards, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217.

Robert McCullough, O.D., President
Georgia State Board of Optometry

Date

Tanja Battle, Executive Director
Professional Licensing Boards Division

Date