

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY**  
**Conference Call Board Meeting Minutes**  
**June 13, 2017 \* 12:15 p.m.**

The Georgia State Board of Optometry met via conference call on Tuesday, June 13, 2017 at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia with the following members participating:

**Board Members Present:**

Jerry Prchal, O.D. – Vice President  
Larry Brown, O.D.  
Robert McCullough, O.D.  
Karen Canupp, O.D.

**Board Members Absent:**

Jody Whisenant, O.D. – President  
Betty Ann Lindsey, Consumer Member

**Staff Present**

Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director  
Linsey Brookins, BSS, HC-1  
Tracy Allen, Examination and Licensing Analyst

**Attorney General's Office**

Wylencia Monroe, Esq., Asst. Attorney General

Dr. Prchal established a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 12:17 p.m.

**Agenda:** Approved with additional items:

- SB 153- Act 244
- Correspondence – Dr. McCullough RE Exam Clarification
- Cognizant/Complaint review (Executive Session)

*Note: The discussion regarding SB153 was tabled for the July 12, 2017 Board Meeting. The discussion regarding the Board rules and the time period in which applicants can test was also tabled for further review for the July 12, 2017 Board Meeting.*

**Public Rules Hearing:**

There were no visitors for the public rule hearing, nor were any written comments or other submissions regarding the proposed new rule received within the thirty days of posting for public view and comment for the public rule hearing.

**Rule 430-13-.02. Licensure By Endorsement: Federal Service**

~~In the case of an optometrist applying for licensure by endorsement who has practiced optometry while in any branch of the federal service, said applicant shall:~~ The Board will consider applications by Endorsement for military spouses and transitioning service members as defined in O.C.G.A. § 43-1-34 (2017) subject to the following:

~~(a) cause his or her commanding officer to provide the Board with official documentation of the applicant's credentialing and quality assurance review to satisfy the requirements of subparagraphs (a); (e)2. and (e)4. of Board Rule 430-13-.01;~~

~~(b) cause the boards of any state in which he or she is or has been licensed to practice optometry to provide the Georgia State Board of Optometry with all of the remaining information required by Rule 430-13-.01; and~~

~~(c) pay all applicable licensing fees set forth in Board Rule 430-2-.01.~~

(a) As used in this rule, the following terms shall mean:

1. "Military" means the United States armed forces, including the National Guard.
2. "Military spouse" means a spouse of a service member or transitioning service member.
3. "Service member" means an active or reserve member of the armed forces, including the National Guard.
4. "Transitioning service member" means a member of the military on active duty status or on separation leave who is within 24 months of retirement or 12 months of separation.

(b) A military spouse or transitioning service member may qualify for a license or certificate of registration by endorsement where the applicant:

1. Holds a license in good standing from another state for which the training, experience, and testing substantially meet or exceed the requirements to obtain a license as an Optometrist in Georgia;
2. Has submitted to the Board a verification of licensure from the appropriate licensing agency referenced in number one (1.) above showing that the applicant's active license is in good standing in that state;
3. Has submitted documentation satisfactory to the Board which verifies the applicant's status as a military spouse or transitioning service member as defined in O.C.G.A. §43-1-34;
4. Has submitted a completed application for licensure by endorsement on a form approved by the Board and has paid the required fee; and
5. Has taken and passed the Georgia Jurisprudence (Laws and Rules) Examination of the Georgia State Board of Optometry.

(c) Effective July 1, 2017, military spouses and transitioning service members may qualify for expedited processing of the license application by showing that the applicant is a military spouse or transitioning service member and that the applicant has paid the fee and meets the requirements for a license under the laws and rules for the type of license for which the applicant has applied.

**Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-34 and 43-30-5 (2016)**

**Dr. Brown motioned, Dr. Canupp seconded, and the Board voted to adopt Rule 430-13-.02. Licensure By Endorsement: Federal Service as posted. None opposed, motion carried.**

**In addition, Dr. Prchal motioned, Dr. McCullough seconded and the Board voted that the formulation and adoption of this rule does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed rule cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-34 and 43-30-5 (2016), and, that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-34 and 43-30-5 (2016) to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed in O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(3)(A), (B), (C), and (D). The formulation and adoption of these rules will impact every licensee in the same manner and each licensee is independently licensed in the field of Optometry.**

**Dr. Canupp moved, Dr. Brown 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) for the purpose of reviewing complaints.**

**Voting in favor of the motion were those present who included Prchal, McCullough, Brown and Canupp.**

**At the conclusion of Executive Session on Tuesday, June 13, 2017, Dr. Prchal declared the meeting to be “open” pursuant to the Open and Public Meeting Act O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1 et seq. No votes were taken in the closed session.**

**Cognizant Report:**

- OPT170014

**Recommendation:**

Refer to Georgia Composite Medical Board and the Florida Board of Medicine.

**Dr. McCullough moved, Dr. Canupp seconded and the Board voted to approve the recommendations of the Cognizant report on complaints as presented. None opposed, motion carried.**

There being no further business for discussion, Dr. McCullough, motioned, Dr. Brown seconded, and the conference call Board meeting was adjourned at 12:52 p.m.

**Minutes recorded by:**

Linsey Brookins, BSS, HC-1

**Minutes reviewed and edited by:**

Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director, HC 1

**DR. JERRY PRCHAL**

Vice-President

**BRIG ZIMMERMAN**

Executive Director HC1

These minutes were approved on: **July 12, 2017**