

GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY
Conference Call Board Meeting Minutes of March 25, 2020 * 8:30 a.m.

The Georgia State Board of Optometry met via teleconference on Wednesday, March 25, 2020, at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia with the following members participating:

Board Members Present:

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

Board Members Absent:

Betty Ann Lindsey, Consumer Member

Administrative Staff Present:

Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director
Linsey Joiner, Board Support Specialist

Attorney General's Office:

Melissa Tracy, Esq., Asst. Attorney General
Kirstin Daughdril, Senior A.A.G., Section Chief
Caroline Lugo, Esq., Asst. Attorney General

Dr. Canupp, President, established a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

Agenda: Approved as presented

Petition for Rule Waiver/Variance:

- C. Miller - Rule 430-2-.09 Reinstatement

Recommendation:

Grant

Dr. Prchal moved, Dr. Brown seconded, and the Board voted to grant the petition for C. Miller as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Application:

- C.M.

Recommendation:

Approve to sit for exam

Dr. Prchal moved, Dr. Brown seconded, and the Board voted to approve the recommendation of the application above as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

COVID-19 Advisory Statement:

The Board concluded to post the below information on the Boards website and FAQ's in regards to the current pandemic COVID-19 issue. (Links are not valid in these minutes)

On March 14, 2020, Governor Brian Kemp signed a public health state of emergency to address the outbreak of the novel corona virus (COVID-19). Click [HERE](#) to review Governor Kemps Executive Order – Declaration of Public Health State of Emergency

On March 17, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) issued the following amended guidelines for health care professionals. Click [HERE](#) to review those guidelines.

One of the CDC recommendations specifically states, "postpone routine dental and eye care visits." It is clear that this recommendation is directed toward dentists, ophthalmologists and optometrists. Accordingly, the Georgia State Board of Optometry urges all of our licensees to postpone all routine eye care visits and elective procedures consistent with these recommendations. This should begin immediately and continue until advised otherwise by the CDC. The postponement of routine eye care visits does not require that all optometry services stop, as the guidelines do not include continuing care for ocular urgencies and emergencies. The Board further advises that licensees should take all reasonable

measures to be available for their patients that require these services, and that licensees keep themselves updated on all current advisories.

American Optometric Association Statement – Doctors of Optometry and COVID-19
(Click [HERE](#) for Statement)

* Click [HERE](#) for COVID-19 related FAQ’s received by the Board

Dr. Prchal moved, Dr. Brown seconded, and the Board voted to approve the COVID-19 Advisory Statement as drafted and to post on the Board website as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Dr. Brown moved, Dr. McCullough 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 review a license renewal issue. Voting in favor of the motion were those present who included Canupp, Brown, McCullough, Prchal and Hackleman.

At the conclusion of Executive Session, Dr. Canupp 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.

CE Audit Issue:

- P.P.

Recommendation:

Licensee must file a petition for rule waiver/variance

Dr. Prchal moved, Dr. Brown seconded, and the Board voted to approve the recommendation of the above licensee in regards to his license renewal as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

There being no further business for discussion, the Board meeting adjourned at 9:36 a.m.

Minutes recorded by:

Linsey Joiner, Board Support Specialist

Minutes reviewed and edited by:

Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director,

DR. KAREN CANUPP

President

BRIG ZIMMERMAN

Executive Director HC1

These minutes were reviewed and approved on: **April 27, 2020**