

GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY
Board Meeting Minutes of April 27, 2020 * 10:00 a.m.
Conference Call

The Georgia State Board of Optometry met via teleconference on Wednesday, April 27, 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.
Betty Ann Lindsey, Consumer Member

Attorney General’s Office:

Melissa Tracy, Esq., Asst. Attorney General

Administrative Staff Present:

Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director
Linsey Joiner, Board Support Specialist

*** Today’s conference call Board meeting was rescheduled from their initial May 13, 2020 Board meeting***

Dr. Canupp, President, established a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 10:13 a.m.

Guest: Dr. Kemp Jones

Agenda: Approved as presented

Meeting Minutes:

- February 12, 2020
- March 25, 2020 Conf. Call

Recommendation:

Approve as amended
Approve as amended

Dr. Prchal moved, Dr. Hackleman seconded, and the Board voted to approve the February 12, 2020 Board meeting minutes as amended. None opposed, motion carried.

Dr. Prchal moved, Dr. Hackleman seconded, and the Board voted to approve the March 25, 2020 Conference Call Board meeting minutes as amended. None opposed, motion carried.

Petitions for Rule Waiver/Variance:

- S. Lal Gupta
- P. Planer

Recommendation:

Deny; Suggest Inactive Status
Grant

Dr. Brown moved, Ms. Lindsay seconded, and the Board voted to deny the petition for S. Lal Gupta as presented for failure to demonstrate the substantial and verifiable hardship as required by law. None opposed, motion carried.

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

Application Ratify List: Licenses issued between: 2/12/2020 - 4/24/2020

license No	Licensee
OPT003222	Krystle Lynn Kennedy
OPT003223	Jennifer Joyce Camp

OPT003224	Jennifer Grace Slotwinski
OPT003225	Emily Rose LaSalle
OPT003226	Brett David McDonough
OPT003227	Walter Scott Berry
OPT003228	Jennifer Margaret Carlisle
OPT003229	Youstina Harkas

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

Correspondence:

- B. Hart-Carlock – RE COVID-19 – *Refer to the Boards website*
- K. Choe – RE 1099 or W2 – *Seek your own legal counsel. The Board does not provide legal advice.*

Dr. Hackleman moved, Dr. Canupp seconded, and the Board voted to respond as directed to the correspondences above as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Misc. Discussion Items:

- T. Johnson – CE’s – Tabled; Pending receipt of additional information

Discussion: Emergency rule with regard to the December 2021 expiration date/renewal date and the required continuing education hours requirement. Vendors are changing in person events to online due to COVID-19.

Rule 430-2-0.1-.04 Emergency Rule - Continuing Education Requirements; Approval of Educational Programs - *Only section (5)(f) will be revised as follows:*

(f) Due to the COVID-19 State of Emergency, notwithstanding any other rule or provision of law, the requirement that a maximum of ten (10) hours of continuing education credit may be taken by correspondence or electronic medium is hereby modified as follows:

1. A maximum of eighteen (18) hours of continuing education credit will be allowed for the upcoming renewal cycle **ONLY** (expiration date of December 31, 2021) for any coursework that is offered by correspondence or electronic medium, which coursework is approved or sponsored by any provider identified in paragraph (1) of this rule; and,
2. This rule shall be effective for the duration of the emergency and for a period of not more than 120 days thereafter. Continuing education hours obtained after the termination of this emergency rule shall be subject to the rule as currently written.

The entire rule will remain in effect as currently posted with the above section being the only revision.

Dr. Brown moved, Dr. Hackleman seconded, and the Board voted to present and vote on the above proposed language for an emergency rule addressing continuing education (CE) hours for the 2020-2021 renewal period during a conference call to be scheduled for Thursday, April 30th at 8:30 a.m. The public is welcome. None opposed; motion carried.

Dr. Canupp 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 Applications, review the executive session minutes, receive the Cognizant (Complaints) and Assistant Attorney General reports. Voting in favor of the motion were those present who included Canupp, Brown, McCullough, Lindsey, 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.

Cognizant Report:

❖ **Recommend Close Case:** OPT1900026, OPT1900027, OPT200009, OPT2000011, OPT200015

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

Attorney General’s Report:

Melissa Tracy, Assistant Attorney General provided a written status report which included information on any cases referred for action, requests for advice and /or requests for authority for proposed rules.

Dr. Canupp moved, Dr. McCullough seconded, and the Board voted to approve the Assistant Attorney General’s report as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Ex. Session Misc. Discussion Items:

- B.S

Recommendation:

Lapse License

Dr. Canupp moved, Dr. Brown seconded, and the Board voted to administratively lapse the license of B.S. for failure to meet the CE requirements for the renewal of the license pursuant to Georgia law. None opposed, motion carried.

Executive Session Minutes:

- February 12, 2020
- March 25, 2020 Conf. Call

Recommendation:

Approve as amended
Approve as presented

Dr. Brown moved, Dr. Prchal seconded, and the Board voted to approve the February 12, 2020 Board Executive Session meeting minutes as amended. None opposed, motion carried.

Dr. Brown moved, Dr. Prchal seconded, and the Board voted to approve the March 25, 2020 Conference Call Board Executive Session meeting minutes as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

There being no further business for discussion, Dr. McCullough moved, Dr. Prchal seconded, and the Board meeting adjourned at 1:39 p.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: **May 13, 2020**