

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY**  
**Board Meeting Minutes of February 17, 2021 \* 10:00 a.m.**  
**Conference Call/ZOOM**

The Georgia State Board of Optometry met via teleconference/ZOOM on Wednesday, February 17, 2021, at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia with the following members participating. The Board's Executive Director hosted the meeting from the Professional Licensing Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217.

**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

**Attorney General's Office**

Melissa Tracy, Esq., Asst. Attorney General

**Administrative Staff Present:**

Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director  
Linsey Joiner, Board Support Specialist  
Sarah Collet, Licensing Analyst

**Visitors Present:**

Dr. Titak, GOA Officer

**Dr. McCullough, Vice-President, established a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. (\*Board Chair requested Dr. McCullough facilitate the meeting)**

**Agenda:** Approved as presented with one additional item added: CE Audits 2021 – J. Prchal

**Meeting Minutes:**

- November 18, 2020 Conf. Call
- January 20, 2021 Conf. Call

**Recommendation:**

Approve as presented  
Approve as presented

**Dr. Brown moved, Dr. Hackleman seconded, and the Board voted to approve the November 18, 2020 Conference Call Board meeting minutes as presented. None opposed, motion carried.**

**Dr. Brown moved, Dr. Hackleman seconded, and the Board voted to approve the January 20, 2021 Conference Call Board meeting minutes as presented. None opposed, motion carried.**

**Correspondence:**

- NBEO – New Exam - *Board Information Only*
- S. Ellis – RE Online CE Hours - *Refer to the Emergency Rule that will posted to the Boards website for Public review/comment following today's meeting. The Emergency Rule is scheduled to be presented to the Board on April 23, 2021 for a Public Rules Hearing to be conducted for an official Board vote to send the revised emergency order to Governor Kemp for review.*

**Petitions for Rule Waiver/Variance:**

- A. Blanco
- K. Vickers

**Recommendation:**

Request to withdraw petition as it is unnecessary  
Grant

**Dr. Brown motioned, Dr. Prchal seconded, and the Board voted request the withdraw of the petition from A. Blanco as it is unnecessary. None opposed, motion carried. as presented.**

**Dr. Brown motioned, Dr. Hackleman seconded, and the Board voted to grant the petition request for K. Vickers as presented. None opposed, motion carried.**

**Misc. Discussion Items:**

- D. Winner – Public Board Order

**Recommendation:**

CE Hours Review for Approval – Approved  
Request additional information from Dr. Winner  
Pursuant to the public Board order.

**Dr. Prchal motioned, Dr. Canupp seconded, and the Board voted to approve the CE hours submitted as having met the requirements outlined in the Public Board order issued to D. Winner as presented. In addition, staff are to request additional information from Dr. Winner pursuant to Board Order. None opposed, motion carried. as presented.**

**Application Ratify List: Licenses issued between: 11/18/2020 - 2/16/2021**

license No	Licensee	Profession name
OPT003300	Kyle Patrick Fluharty	Optometry
OPT003301	Carly Jean Kiomall	Optometry
OPT003302	Dennis Gregory Doderer	Optometry
OPT003303	Tiffany Rebecca Risner	Optometry
OPT003304	Scott Raymond Melling	Optometry
OPT003305	Christine Ann Manzella	Optometry
OPT003306	Derek Clinton Haden	Optometry
OPT003307	Melody Garcia	Optometry
OPT003308	Mary Elizabeth Sezer	Optometry
OPT003309	Nicolle Lynn Oberlin	Optometry

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

**ARBO Update Presented – L. Brown**

**Dr. Prchal 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) 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, Prchal and Hackleman.**

**At the conclusion of Executive Session, Dr. McCullough 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.**

**Applications:**

- A.C.C.
- A.B.
- K.V.
- K.B.
- A.W.C.

**Recommendation:**

Tabled, Pending receipt of additional information  
Tabled, Pending receipt of additional information  
Approve for reinstatement  
Tabled, Pending receipt of additional information  
Tabled, Last attempt to obtain additional information to be made

**Dr. Canupp moved, Dr. Brown seconded, and the Board voted to accept the recommendation on the application above as presented. None opposed, motion carried.**

**Cognizant Report:**

- ❖ **Recommend Closure:** OPT210001, OPT210006, OPT210009

❖ **Recommend Referral to Investigations:** OPT210007

❖ **Recommend Pending Receipt of Additional Information:** OPT210008

**Dr. Brown moved, Dr. Hackleman 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. Brown seconded, and the Board voted to approve the Assistant Attorney General's report as presented. None opposed, motion carried.**

**Executive Session Minutes:**

- November 18, 2020 C.C.
- January 20, 2021 C.C.

**Recommendation:**

Accept as presented  
Accept as presented

**Dr. McCullough moved, Dr. Brown seconded, and the Board voted to approve the November 18, 2020 Board Conference Call Executive Session meeting minutes as presented. None opposed, motion carried.**

**Dr. Hackleman moved, Dr. Brown seconded, and the Board voted to approve the January 20, 2021 Conference Call Board Executive Session meeting minutes as presented. None opposed, motion carried.**

**Board Rules Discussion:**

- 430-2-.01 Emergency Rule – Continuing Education Requirements; Approval of Education Programs

The Board discussed on the adoption of an emergency rule for the opportunity for licensees to obtain additional CE hours through live online interactive means. The is due to the current national/state emergency COVID-19 pandemic, as well as to keep up with the today's technology advancements that still allow licensees to continue to achieve adequate knowledge by such means. A public rules hearing is to be scheduled for Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. for the final version of the rule to be presented to the Board for an official vote to adopt and send to the Governor's office for review/approval.

Dr. Jerry Brown announced to the Board this would be his last meeting. He is retiring and resigning from the Board seat to travel. The Board thanked Dr. Brown for his serve on the Board and to the citizens and licensees of Georgia, he will be missed.

**There being no further business for discussion, Dr. McCullough moved, Dr. Prchal seconded, and the Board meeting adjourned at 2:05 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

Minutes reviewed and approved **February 17, 2021**