

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY**  
**Board Meeting Minutes of February 15, 2023 \* 10:00 a.m.**  
**Conference Call/ZOOM**

The Georgia State Board of Optometry met via teleconference/ZOOM on Wednesday, February 15, 2023 at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia. The Board's Executive Director hosted the meeting from the Professional Licensing Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217.

**Board Members Present:**

Robert "Bob" McCullough, O.D., President  
Paul Ajamian, O.D., Vice-President  
Jeffrey Hackleman, O.D.  
Jeanne Perrine, O.D.  
B. Thassanee Gutter-Parker – Consumer Member

**Attorney General's Office**

Bryon Thernes, AAG

**Administrative Staff Present:**

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

**Dr. Bob McCullough, President, established a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 10:16 a.m.**

**Agenda:** Approved with additional late items:

- Expiration of Prescription Glasses – M. McCullough – The Board will schedule a rules committee meeting to discuss and make amendments to Board Rule 430-5-.02 Contents of Prescriptions for Contact Lenses
- Optometry Board website updates - Dr. Hackleman will provide additions of the Boards website to ED Zimmerman, including quick reference to O.C.G.A 31-12-12 Contact Lens Law.

**Oath of Office – New Board Member:**

- Ellen Fitzgerald, O.D.

The Board would like to welcome new Board member appointment Ms. Ellen Fitzgerald who was appointed to replace Dr. Karen Canupp, who resigned her seat recently on the Board. Ms. Fitzgerald was administered the Oath of Office at the start of today's Board meeting.

The Board would like to express its gratitude to Dr. Karen Canupp for her years of service on this Board and dedication to the licensees and public for over 10 years.

The Board also recognizes Mr. Bryon Thernes, Esq., AAG. Mr. Thernes is the Boards new legal counsel from the Georgia Attorney General's office.

**Meeting Minutes:**

- November 9, 2022 C.C. Board Meeting

**Recommendation:**

Approve as presented

**Dr. Hackleman moved, Dr. Perrine seconded, and the Board voted to approve the November 9, 2022 Conference Call Board meeting minutes as presented. None opposed, motion carried.**

**Misc. Discussion Items:**

- Jurisprudence Exam – Test Questions Review – *A subcommittee of the Board consisting of Dr. McCullough and Dr. Fitzgerald to review and present back to Board.*
- CE Course – Jurisprudence – *Tabled for discussion in Executive Session*
- Records Retention – *Per Board Rule 430-5-.01(3), The written and/or electronic record of the above determination of each patient examined shall be maintained by the licensed doctor of optometry for seven (7) years from initiation and be made available to the Board or its authorized agents for inspection at any reasonable time. Will be reviewed by Rules Committee when they next can meet.*

#### **Correspondence:**

- PDMP Advisory Committee Update – J. Perrine – *Board Information Only*
- NBE0 2023 Changes and Announcements – *Board Information Only*
- H. Kemp Jones – Online CE's and Jurisprudence – *The Board rules only allow for 10 CE hours to be obtained at this time. Refer to Petition for Rule/Waiver process.*
- 2023 Memo RE ACEO Policy Manual - *Board Information Only*
- 2022 Memo Re Tech programs ACEO Accreditation - *Board Information Only*
- K. Herrin- Re Prescribing/DEA Number – *A DEA number is required for prescribing, refer to PDMP*

**Dr. Ajamian moved, Dr. Perrine seconded, and the Board voted to approve the recommendations and respond as directed to the correspondences as presented. None opposed, motion carried.**

#### **Application Ratify List:** Licenses issued between: 11/9/2022 - 2/14/202

<b>License No.</b>	<b>Licensee</b>
OPT003481	Isaac Jong-Suh Nelson
OPT003482	Cassidy Ashton Starling
OPT003483	Sarah Ann Stevenson Williford
OPT003484	Nancy L. Busch
OPT003485	Ridhi Patel
OPT003486	Philip Wayne Shaffer
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>6</b>

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

**Dr. Fitzgerald moved, Dr. Ajamian seconded, and the Board voted to enter 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 McCullough, Hackleman, Ajamian, Perrine, Gutter-Parker, and Fitzgerald.**

**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:** *None presented*

#### **Cognizant Report:**

- ❖ **Recommend Closure:** OPT220018, OPT230001, OPT230006, OPT230008, OPT230009, OPT230010, OPT230012
- ❖ **Recommend Referral to AG's Office:** OPT230005
- ❖ **Recommend Referral to Investigations:** OPT230007

❖ **Pending Receipt of Additional Information:** OPT220010, OPT220012, OPT230011, OPT230013, OPT230014

**Dr. Ajamian moved, Dr. Fitzgerald seconded, and the Board voted to refer OPT230005 to the AG's office for a Public Board Order as presented. None opposed, motion carried.**

**Dr. Ajamian moved, Dr. Perrine 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:**

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

**Executive Session Minutes:**

- November 9, 2022, C.C./ZOOM Board Meeting

**Recommendation:**

Accept as presented

**Dr. Fitzgerald moved, Dr. Perrine seconded, and the Board voted to approve the November 9, 2022 Board Conference Call Executive Session meeting minutes as presented. None opposed, motion carried.**

**2023-2024 Board Officer Elections:**

**President:** Robert "Bob" McCullough, O.D.

**Vice-President:** Paul Ajamian, O.D.

**Dr. Perrine moved, Ms. Gutter-Parker seconded, and the Board voted to approve the 2023-2024 Officer Elections as presented. None opposed, motion carried.**

**There being no further business for discussion, the Board meeting adjourned at 2:12 p.m.**

**Minutes recorded by:**

Linsey Joiner, Board Support Specialist

**Minutes reviewed and edited by:**

Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director

**DR. ROBERT MCCULLOUGH**

President

**BRIG ZIMMERMAN**

Executive Director HC1

Minutes reviewed and approved **May 3, 2023**