

TENNESSEE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY MEETING MINUTES

DATE: April 12, 2017
TIME: 9:00 A.M., ET
LOCATION: Health Related Boards
Poplar Room
665 Mainstream Drive
Nashville, TN

BOARD MEMBERS

PRESENT: David Talley, O.D., Chair
Brad S. Lindsey, O.D.
Torrey J. Carlson, O.D.
Jennifer G. Uhl, O.D., Secretary

BOARD MEMBER

ABSENT: Edie Clemons, Citizen Member

STAFF

PRESENT: Yvette Hernandez, Board Administrator
Teddy Wilkins, Unit Director
Stefan Cange, Assistant General Counsel

Dr. Talley, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:02 A.M. A roll call was conducted and a quorum was present.

Review/Approve January 18, 2017 Board Meeting Minutes

Upon review of the January 12, 2017 Board Meeting minutes Dr. Lindsey made a motion, seconded by Dr. Uhl, to approve the minutes as written. The motion carried.

Office of General Counsel

Mr. Cange stated there are no open cases for discipline in OGC and no pending rules changes.

Mr. Cange stated that he had rule language to go over in order to file a Notice of hearing. Rule amendments proposed are: to correct the web address for license renewals; and to clarify the requirements for continuing education pertaining to controlled substances prescribing practices.

Administrative Report

Ms. Hernandez stated there are 1,246 licensed Optometrists as of April 11, 2017. Ms. Hernandez said there were two (2) new licenses in January, one (1) in February and four (4) in March. Ms. Hernandez said fifty (50) practitioners renewed their licenses in January with thirty-three (33) renewing online for a percentage rate of sixty-six (66%); forty-two (42) renewals in February with twenty (20) renewing online for a percentage rate of forty-eight (48%); and fifty (50) renewals in March with thirty-eight (38) renewing online for a percentage rate of seventy-six (76%).

Mr. Hernandez said in January, February and March 2017 six (6) practitioners retired their licenses and ten (10) practitioner licenses expired.

Mr. Hernandez reviewed the remaining scheduled Board meeting dates for 2017:

July 12, 2017

October 13, 2017 – Gatlinburg, TN (tentative)

Ms. Teddy Wilkins stated she would like to add to this report that we are working hard on the online application system and it will be going live in the next several weeks, middle of May or early June, we are hoping that this will benefit the new applicants and streamline the process.

Office of Investigations

Ms. Dorsey Luther said there are currently seven (7) open complaints against practitioners and are monitoring two (2) practitioners.

Review, Approve/Deny Licensure Files

Upon review Dr. Uhl made a motion, seconded by Dr. Carlson, to approve the following applicants for licensure:

Tamara A. Beckett

Mavis J. Bulger

Bonnie-Kim Hang

Jeffrey Dennis Havel

Michael J. Lopykinski

Christina Martin

Amy L. Sickman

Mollie N. Veteto

Alex Eugene Bonk

The motion carried.

Review, Approve/Deny Reinstatement Applicants

Upon review Dr. Carlson made a motion, seconded by Dr. Lindsey, to approve the following reinstatement applicants:

John Thomas Gingrich

The motion carried.

Correspondence

The Board reviewed correspondence letter from **Dr. Jill Scullion** listing the equipment available for comprehensive screenings in a mobile setting in Tennessee. Upon discussion of Dr. Scullion's request, Dr. Talley stated the motion to approve **Envolve Vision** to do vision screening with equipment listed in the letter and resulting in a recommendation for full eye examination if the individual fails the screening, limited to three (3) to four (4) clinics in the Nashville listed in the letter and only for the remaining of 2017. Dr. Lindsey made a motion, seconded by Dr. Uhl. Dr. Talley asked Mr. Cange to send an approval letter to Dr. Scullion.

The Board reviewed a letter from **Dr. Ashley C. Baker** asking about CPT codes. Dr. Talley stated Optometrists need to use Physicians codes. Dr. Talley asked Ms. Hernandez to call Dr. Baker stating the Board didn't understand her request; in your letter you stated that CPT codes were used, but declined by the Insurance Company. As an Optometrist one must use Physician codes.

Other Board Business

No new business to conduct.

Dr. David Talley stated it's been an honor to serve on this Board. He's been on this Board close to twelve (12) years and his second term expires June 30, 2017. July 12, 2017 will be his last Board meeting.

Adjourn

With no other Board business to conduct Dr. Uhl made a motion, seconded by Dr. Carlson, to adjourn at 9:33 a.m. The motion carried.

Ratified by the Board on July 12, 2017