

TENNESSEE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY MEETING MINUTES

DATE: January 18, 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.

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 9:04 A.M. A roll call was conducted and a quorum was present.

Review/Approve October 14, 2016 Board Meeting Minutes

Upon review of the October 14, 2016 Board Meeting minutes Dr. Carlson made a motion, seconded by Dr. Lindsey, to approve the minutes as written. The motion carried.

Office of Investigations

Ms. Dorroh said there is one (1) open complaint against a practitioner.

Ms. Dorroh stated one (1) license is suspended and one (1) is on probation.

Financial Report

Ms. French reviewed the Financial Report stating for fiscal year 2016 the Board had direct expenditures of \$122,652.17 and allocated expenditures of \$45,002.20 for total expenditures of \$167,654.57. Ms. French said Board fee revenue totaled \$189,859.98. The current year net is \$22,205.41. LARS improvements were \$3,184.43 for a total cumulative carryover of \$689,342.30.

Ms. Wilkins questioned the \$900 membership dues titled Chattanooga Cares, Inc. and stated it may be for ARBO. Ms. French said she would review the membership fee. Ms. Wilkins stated they are still working on the contract with ARBO which should be completed soon.

Office of General Counsel

Mr. Cange stated there are no open cases for discipline in OGC and no pending rule amendments.

Mr. Cange said in July 2016 the Board discussed possible rule changes to the continuing education provisions and tabled the discussion until today's meeting. Dr. Carlson stated he was not familiar with the changes to continuing education. Ms. Hernandez said the Board wanted to make a clean revision on the continuing education. Ms. Wilkins stated there was a discrepancy in the rules on page nine (9) in sub-paragraph "c" which states that any one (1) or two (2) hour course designed specifically to address prescribing practices must be approved by the Board. Ms. Wilkins stated there are no more one (1) hour courses.

Dr. Talley said it was his understanding that the Board set a time period for practitioners to obtain two (2) one (1) hour courses after which time the practitioner must take a two (2) hour course.

Ms. Wilkins said on page eight (8) in sub-paragraph "a" and "c" are redundant and confusing. Ms. Wilkins said "c" needs to be deleted.

Upon discussion, Dr. Talley made a motion, seconded by Dr. Carlson, to amend page nine (9) sub-paragraph "c" to state two (2) hour courses designed specifically on prescribing practices pre-approved by the Board, or approved vendor, and amend and merge sub-paragraphs "a" and "c" on page eight (8). The motion carried.

Administrative Report

Ms. Hernandez stated there are 1,247 licensed Optometrists as of January 13, 2017. Ms. Hernandez said there were five (5) new licenses in October, two (2) in November and two (2) in December. Ms. Hernandez said fifty-seven (57) practitioners renewed their licenses in October with thirty-two (32) renewing online for a percentage rate of fifty-six (56%); thirty-five (35) renewals in November with fifty-two (52) renewing online for a percentage rate of sixty-seven (67%); and nineteen (19) renewals in December with twenty-nine (29) renewing online for a percentage rate of sixty-six (66%).

Mr. Hernandez said in October, November and December seven (7) practitioners retired their licenses and eight (8) practitioner licenses expired.

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

April 12, 2017

July 12, 2017

October 13, 2017 – Gatlinburg, TN (tentative)

Mr. Hernandez said the ARBO Annual Meeting will be held at the Grand Hyatt in Washing, DC June 18-20, 2017 and asked if any Board members would like to attend. Ms. Wilkins stated the Director is also permitted to attend these meetings. Dr. Talley made a motion, seconded by Dr. Carlson, to send Dr. Uhl, Dr. Carlson and Ms. Wilkins to the ARBO Annual Meeting. The motion carried.

Teleconference with Dr. Jill Scullion

Mr. Cange stated Dr. Scullion works with a company in North Carolina which conducts vision clinics for the indigent in a temporary/mobile setting. Dr. Talley stated practitioners must conduct an examination in order to prescribe and is not aware a vision screening can be conducted to prescribe eyeglasses. Mr. John Williams said this is an important issue relating to kiosks in malls. Dr. Talley stated they do not want prescriptions for glasses being done without a full exam because the disease process in the eye can affect the prescription and deviates from the standard of care. Mr. Williams said it is a very important issue that needs to be looked at by the Board.

The Board conducted the teleconference with Dr. Scullion. Dr. Talley asked Dr. Scullion to explain her operation. Dr. Scullion stated they are not providing prescriptions based on the results of the screening. Dr. Scullion said if the patient fails the screening then the optometrist conducts a full exam and gives them the prescription. Dr. Scullion said if they pass the exam they are given a brochure that states the screening is not a full eye exam and encourages them to see an optometrist.

Upon discussion, Dr. Talley suggested Dr. Scullion send a letter to the Board, on letterhead, requesting permission to provide comprehensive screenings in a mobile setting in Tennessee for review at the next Board meeting. Dr. Scullion thanked the Board and stated she would send the appropriate request.

Review, Approve/Deny Licensure Files

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

Caitlyn Paige Conoley
Nadia Khan
Angela Elizabeth Milam
Lani Kiku Wilson

The motion carried.

Review, Approve/Deny Reinstatement Applicants

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

David Armand Damari
Daniel D. Gottlieb

The motion carried.

Correspondence

The Board reviewed correspondence from **Dr. A. Shum** asking if he can perform the Quickert 3-Suture Technique for Involution Entropion. Upon discussion of Dr. Shum's request, Dr. Talley stated he is familiar with the technique; however, it does not fall under the scope of practice for optometrists. Dr. Talley asked Ms. Hernandez to send this information to Dr. Shum.

The Board reviewed a letter from **Dr. Reed B. Parker, O.D.** asking if corneal collagen cross linking, which is a procedure to reduce the progression of keratoconus, is within the scope of practice for Tennessee optometrists. Dr. Talley made a motion, seconded by Dr. Lindsey, that the procedure does fall under the scope of practice for Tennessee and asked Ms. Hernandez to send Dr. Parker a letter stating it is within the scope of practice. The motion carried.

Dr. Talley requested that the CPT Codes, previously approved by the Board, be placed on the Board's website.

Discuss legislation and take action if needed

Mr. Cange stated he was assigned the Sunset Bill legislation for the Board which basically changes the date for the Board's sunset.

Mr. Williams said there is an insurance type bill which came from the Tennessee Academy of Ophthalmology who contacted Dr. Durham, President of the Tennessee Association Optometric Physicians. Mr. Williams said the bill deals with eye drops and insurance coverage of eye drops and has to do with the length of time the insurance company will cover the medication. Mr. Williams says it's not the kind of legislation in which the Board would take a position.

Other Board Business

No new business to conduct.

Adjourn

With no other Board business to conduct Dr. Uhl made a motion, seconded by Dr. Lindsey, to adjourn at 10:47 a.m. The motion carried.

Ratified by the Board on April 12, 2017