**BOARD FOR HEARING AID SPECIALISTS**
**MINUTES OF MEETING**

The Board for Hearing Aid Specialists met on Wednesday, May 30, 2012, at the Offices of the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation, Perimeter Center, Training Room 2, 2nd Floor, 9960 Mayland Drive, Richmond, Virginia 23233. The following members were present:

Harry W. Kessler, Chair
Eric B. Hecker, PhD
Dr. Frederick Lassen
Arva B. Priola
Teresa Robinson Irwin

The following members were not present:

Olivia Little Kearney
Pamela Pugh

DPOR staff present for all or part of the meeting included:

Gordon N. Dixon, Director
Mark N. Courtney, Deputy Director for Licensing & Regulations
William H. Ferguson, II, Executive Director
Demetrios J. Melis, Board Administrator
Cathy Clark, Administrative Assistant
Sharon Sweet, Director of Education and Examinations

Representative from the Office of the Attorney General was present for the meeting.

Elizabeth B. Peay, Assistant Attorney General

**Call to Order**

Mr. Kessler, Chair, determined a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m.

**Approval of Agenda**

Upon a motion by Ms. Irwin and seconded by Dr. Hecker, the Board voted to adopt the agenda as written.

The members voting 'yes' were Mr. Kessler, Dr. Hecker, Dr. Lassen, Ms. Priola, and Ms. Irwin. There were no negative votes. The motion passed unanimously.

**Public Comment**

Mr. Kessler asked if there was any public comment. There was no public comment.

**Approval of**

Mr. Dixon indicated that the minutes of the November 2, 2011 meeting

**Minutes: November 2, 2011 Board for Hearing Aid Specialists Board Meeting:**

should be amended to reflect that he was not present. Upon a motion by Ms. Irwin and seconded by Dr. Hecker, the Board voted to approve the amended minutes of the November 2, 2011 Board for Hearing Aid Specialists Board Meeting.

The members voting 'yes' were Mr. Kessler, Dr. Hecker, Dr. Lassen, Ms. Priola, and Ms. Irwin. There were no negative votes. The motion passed unanimously.

**Regulations**

The Board reviewed the proposed staff responses to the public comments received from the Notice of Intended Regulatory Action (NOIRA) related to proposed amendments to the Hearing Aid Specialists Regulations. Upon a motion by Ms. Irwin and seconded by Dr. Lassen, the Board voted to accept the proposed staff responses.

The members voting 'yes' were Mr. Kessler, Dr. Hecker, Dr. Lassen, Ms. Priola, and Ms. Irwin. There were no negative votes. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board reviewed the proposed amendments to the Regulations. Upon a motion by Ms. Irwin and seconded by Dr. Hecker, the Board voted to adopt the amended Regulations.

The members voting 'yes' were Mr. Kessler, Dr. Hecker, Dr. Lassen, Ms. Priola, and Ms. Irwin. There were no negative votes. The motion passed unanimously.

**Examination**

Ms. Sweet presented information to the Board and fielded questions on the International Hearing Society (IHS) computer-based written examination. Ms. Irwin suggested that applicants should be required to pass the written exam before they can sit for the practical exam. It was noted that an exam fee adjustment must be approved before the new written exam can be implemented. Ms. Sweet noted that the fee language in the Regulations will need to be amended.

**Board Statistics**

The Board reviewed Board Statistics for informational purposes.

**Other Board Business**

**Brochure**

Mr. Kessler inquired about a brochure that had been developed by the Board previously. Staff will bring the brochure to the next board meeting for review.

**Adjourn**

There being no further items for discussion, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 12:08 p.m.

Harry W. Kessler, Chair

Gordon N. Dixon, Secretary

**BOARD FOR OPTICIANS**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

The Board for Opticians met on Friday, April 13, 2012 at the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation (DPOR), 9960 Mayland Drive, 2nd Floor, Board Room 3, Richmond, Virginia 23233.

The following members were present:

Billie L. Taylor, Chair
Renee P. Allgood
Robert E. Flippin

The following members were not present:

Faye Prichard
William H. Bearden, III, MD

The DPOR staff present for all or for portions of the meeting included:

William H. Ferguson, II, Executive Director
Cathy Clark, Administrative Assistant
Earlyne Perkins, Legal Analyst

A representative from the Office of the Attorney General was not present.

**Call to Order**

Ms. Taylor determined there was a quorum and called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.

**Approval of Agenda**

Upon a motion by Mr. Flippin and seconded by Ms. Allgood, the Board voted to approve the agenda. The members voting 'yes' were Ms. Taylor, Ms. Allgood, and Mr. Flippin. There were no negative votes. The motion passed unanimously.

**Public Comment**

Ms. Taylor asked for public comment. There was no public comment.

**Approval of Minutes**

Upon a motion by Mr. Flippin and seconded by Ms. Allgood, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the Board for Opticians December 9, 2011 board meeting and the March 6, 2012 Informal Fact Finding Conference.

The members voting 'yes' were Ms. Taylor, Ms. Allgood, and Mr. Flippin. There were no negative votes. The motion passed unanimously.

**2012-02183, Tran, Phuong Thanh**

In the matter of **File Number 2012-02183, Phuong Thanh Tran**, the Board reviewed the record which consisted of the application file, transcript, exhibits, and the Summary of the Informal Fact-Finding Conference. Phuong Thanh Tran appeared at the meeting in person and addressed the Board. Also addressing the Board on Mr. Tran's behalf

were Lee Kicklighter, Silvia Altamirno, and Kim Nguyen, witnesses.

Upon a motion by Mr. Flippin and seconded by Ms. Allgood, the Board voted to reject the recommendation in the Summary of the Informal Fact-Finding Conference and approve Phuong Thanh Tran's application for an Optician license, subject to the following condition:

Mr. Tran must obtain an annual report from his parole officer and provide it to the Board until he is released from parole. This report must include, but is not limited to, Mr. Tran's status as a parolee and any new misdemeanor or felony convictions, and should be submitted to the Board, annually, by April 30th, beginning April 30, 2013.

The members voting 'yes' were Ms. Taylor, Ms. Allgood, and Mr. Flippin. There were no negative votes. The motion passed unanimously.

**Examination**

The Board reviewed its examination statistics for informational purposes.

**Quarterly Statistics**

The Board reviewed its quarterly board statistics for informational purposes.

**Legislation**

Mr. Ferguson reported to the Board on the progress of pending legislation to merge the Board for Opticians with the Board for Hearing Aid Specialists that is awaiting approval by the Governor. If passed, the two boards will be merged effective July 1, 2012.

**Other Board Business**

The Board engaged in a general discussion about Optician training and apprenticeship programs.

**Adjourn**

Since there was no further business to be brought before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:06 a.m.

Billie Taylor, Chair

Gordon N. Dixon, Secretary