VIRGINIA BOARD OF OPTOMETRY SPECIAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MINUTES DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS TRAINING ROOM 2

HENRICO, VA May 19, 2023

CALL TO ORDER: A meeting of a Special Conference Committee") of

the Virginia Board of Optometry ("Board") was convened on May 19, 2023, at 10:00 a.m., at the Department of Health Professions, Perimeter Center, 2nd Floor Conference Center, Training Room 2,

9960 Mayland Drive, Henrico, Virginia 23233.

FIRST CONFERENCE: 10:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Clifford Roffis, TPA-Certified Optometrist, Chairperson

Devon Cabot, Committee member

STAFF PRESENT: Kelli Moss, Deputy Executive Director

Heather Pote, Sr. Discipline Case Specialist

Christine Corey, Adjudication Specialist, Administrative

Proceedings Division

OTHERS PRESENT: Avi Efreom, Administrative Proceedings Division

MATTER SCHEDULED: Gregory Moore, TPA-Certified Optometrist Applicant

Case No. 227392

DISCUSSION: Dr. Moore appeared before the Committee in person in accordance

with a Notice of Informal Conference dated April 14, 2023, to consider the application of Gregory Moore for licensure to practice as a TPA-Certified Optometrist in the Commonwealth of Virginia, and to determine whether grounds exist to refuse to issue a license to Dr. Moore to practice as a TPA-Certified Optometrist. Dr. Moore was present and was not represented by counsel. The Committee fully discussed the allegations contained in the Notice with Dr.

Moore.

CLOSED SESSION: Ms. Cabot moved that the Committee convene a closed meeting

pursuant to § 2.2-3711(A)(27) of the Code for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter regarding **Gregory Moore**, **TPA-Certified Optometrist Applicant**. Additionally, Ms. Cabot moved that Ms. Moss attend the closed meeting because her presence in the closed meeting was deemed necessary and would aid the Committee in its deliberations. The motion was

seconded and carried unanimously.

RECONVENE:

Ms. Cabot moved that the Committee certify that it heard, discussed, or considered only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

The Committee reconvened in open session pursuant to § 2.2-3712(D) of the Code.

DECISION:

Case No. 227392 Ms. Cabot moved that the Committee deny Gregory Moore's

application to practice as a TPA-Certified Optometrist in the Commonwealth of Virginia, and that the basis for this decision will be set forth in a final Board order sent to Dr. Moore. The motion

was seconded and carried unanimously.

The hearing concluded at 10:33 a.m.

SECOND CONFERENCE: 1:02 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Clifford Roffis, TPA-Certified Optometrist, Chairperson

Devon Cabot, Committee member

STAFF PRESENT: Kelli Moss, Deputy Executive Director

Heather Pote, Sr. Discipline Case Specialist

Christine Corey, Adjudication Specialist, Administrative

Proceedings Division

OTHERS PRESENT: Avi Efreom, Administrative Proceedings Division

MATTER SCHEDULED: Tewodros Gedamu, TPA-Certified Optometrist

Case No. 221842

DISCUSSION: Dr. Gedamu appeared before the Committee in person in

accordance with a Notice of Informal Conference dated April 17, 2023, to inquire into allegations that he may have violated certain laws and regulations governing the practice of Optometry in Virginia. Dr. Gedamu was present and was represented by counsel, William Mitchell, II, Esq. The Committee fully discussed the

allegations contained in the Notice with Dr. Gedamu.

CLOSED SESSION:

Ms. Cabot moved that the Committee convene a closed meeting pursuant to § 2.2-3711(A)(27) of the Code for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter regarding **Tewodros Gedamu, TPA-Certified Optometrist.** Additionally, Ms. Cabot moved that Ms. Moss attend the closed meeting because her presence in the closed meeting was deemed necessary and would aid the Committee in its deliberations. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

RECONVENE:

Ms. Cabot moved that the Committee certify that it heard, discussed, or considered only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

The Committee reconvened in open session pursuant to § 2.2-3712(D) of the Code.

DECISION:

Case No. 221842 Ms. Cabot moved that the Committee dismiss the case against Dr.

Gedamu, and that the basis for this decision will be set forth in a final Board order sent to Dr. Gedamu. The motion was seconded

and carried unanimously.

The hearing concluded at 2:11 p.m.

THIRD CONFERENCE: 2:35 p.m

MEMBERS PRESENT: Clifford Roffis, TPA-Certified Optometrist, Chairperson

Devon Cabot, Committee member

STAFF PRESENT: Kelli Moss, Deputy Executive Director

Heather Pote, Sr. Discipline Case Specialist

Christine Corey, Adjudication Specialist, Administrative

Proceedings Division

OTHERS PRESENT: Avi Efreom, Administrative Proceedings Division

MATTER SCHEDULED: Jodi Vaughn, TPA-Certified Optometrist Reinstatement

Applicant

Case No. 224639

DISCUSSION: Dr. Vaughn appeared before the Committee in person in

accordance with a Notice of Informal Conference dated April 28,

2023, to consider her application for reinstatement of her license to practice as a TPA-Certified Optometrist in the Commonwealth of Virginia, and to determine whether grounds exist to refuse to reinstate Dr. Vaughn's license to practice as a TPA-Certified Optometrist. Dr. Vaughn was present and was represented by counsel, Christian Vaughn, Esq. The Committee fully discussed the allegations contained in the Notice with Dr. Vaughn.

CLOSED SESSION:

Ms. Cabot moved that the Committee convene a closed meeting pursuant to § 2.2-3711(A)(27) of the Code for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter regarding **Jodi Vaughn, TPA-Certified Optometrist Reinstatement Applicant.** Additionally, Ms. Cabot moved that Ms. Moss attend the closed meeting because her presence in the closed meeting was deemed necessary and would aid the Committee in its deliberations. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

RECONVENE:

Ms. Cabot moved that the Committee certify that it heard, discussed, or considered only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

The Committee reconvened in open session pursuant to § 2.2-3712(D) of the Code.

DECISION: Case No. 224639

Ms. Cabot moved that the Committee reinstate Jodi Vaughn's license to practice as a TPA-Certified Optometrist in the Commonwealth of Virginia contingent upon Dr. Vaughn's entry into the Health Practitioners Monitoring Program within 30 days of the entry of the order and continued compliance with HPMP, and that the basis for this decision will be set forth in a final Board order sent to Dr. Vaughn. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

The hearing concluded at 4:15 p.m.

Kelli Moss, Deputy Executive Director