

Call to Order

The November 8, 2024, Virginia Board of Optometry meeting was called to order at 9:01 a.m. at the Department of Health Professions (DHP), Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, 2nd Floor, Board Room 4, Henrico, Virginia 23233.

Presiding Officer

Gerald R. Neidigh, Jr., O.D., President

Members Present

Lisa G. Wallace-Davis, O.D.

Shawn H. Hobbs, O.D.

Corliss V. Booker, Ph.D., APRN, FNP-BC

Members Not in Attendance

Evan J. Kaufman, O.D., Vice President

Fred E. Goldberg, O.D.

Staff Present

Kelli G. Moss, Executive Director

Claire Foley, Deputy Executive Director

Laura Jackson, Board Administrator

Laura Paasch, Senior Licensing & Operations Specialist

James L. Jenkins, Jr., Chief Deputy Director, DHP

Matt Novak, Policy & Economic Analyst, DHP

Public Present

Bo Keeney, Virginia Optometric Association

Allyson Flinn, Medical Society of Virginia

Establishment of Quorum

With four board members out of six in attendance, a quorum was established.

Introductions

Dr. Neidigh welcomed Dr. Lisa Wallace-Davis, who was recently appointed to the Board after having served previously for eight years between 2015 and 2023.

Dr. Neidigh also welcomed Ms. Claire Foley, who succeeded Kelli Moss as the Board's deputy executive director in September.

Ordering of Agenda

Dr. Neidigh opened the floor to any changes to the agenda. Hearing none, the agenda was accepted as presented.

Public Comment

There were no requests to provide public comment.

Approval of Minutes

Dr. Neidigh opened the floor to any additions or corrections regarding the draft minutes from the following meetings:

- August 28, 2024 - Full Board Meeting
- August 28, 2024 -Public Hearing

Hearing no additions or corrections, the minutes were approved as presented.

Legislative/Regulatory Report

Mr. Novak provided the report on regulatory activity.

- Current Regulatory Actions.

Mr. Novak reported the status of the current regulatory actions as of October 21, 2024.

- Consideration of final regulatory action regarding laser surgery.

Mr. Novak provided a summary of the comments received during the 60-day public comment period for the final regulations for surgery certification.

Dr. Hobbs made a motion to adopt final regulations regarding laser surgery by optometrists as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Wallace-Davis and carried unanimously.

Agency Director's Report

Mr. Jenkins provided an update on the agency's activities.

President's Report

Dr. Neidigh had no information to report to the Board.

Board of Health Professions' Report

Ms. Moss reported that to date the Board of Health Professions does not have a meeting scheduled and that no new board members have been appointed by the governor. As there are currently only eleven members appointed, which constitutes a quorum of this board, the board members were polled to determine a date a meeting could be scheduled before the end of the year as required, and no single date was identified as available for all eleven members.

Staff Reports

Ms. Moss provided information on board statistics and the status of assigned board counsel and SRP manual updates.

Ms. Foley provided an update on open and closed discipline cases.

New Business

There was no new business to report.

Next Meeting

The next full board meeting is scheduled for February 6, 2025.

Adjournment

Hearing no objections, Dr. Neidigh adjourned the meeting at 9:22 a.m.

Kelli G. Moss
Executive Director