

**BOARD OF OPTOMETRY
FULL BOARD MEETING
February 7, 2020**

TIME AND PLACE: The Virginia Board of Optometry (Board) meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m. at the Department of Health Professions (DHP), Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, 2nd Floor, Board Room 3, Henrico, Virginia 23233.

PRESIDING OFFICER: Fred E. Goldberg, O.D. President

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lisa Wallace-Davis, O.D. Vice-President
Helene Clayton-Jeter, O.D.
Steven A. Linas, O.D.
Clifford A. Roffis, O.D.

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Devon Cabot, Citizen Member

STAFF PRESENT: Leslie L. Knachel, Executive Director
Kelli Moss, Deputy Executive Director
Charis Mitchell, Assistant Attorney General, Board Counsel
Elaine Yeatts, Senior Policy Analyst
Anthony C. Morales, Operations Manager
Tamara Farmer – Administrative Assistant
Celia Wilson – Administrative Assistant
David Brown, D.C., DHP Director

OTHERS PRESENT: Bo Keeney, Virginia Optometric Association (VOA)
Amanda Bount, Department of Accountancy

QUORUM: With five members of the Board present, a quorum was established.

ORDERING OF AGENDA There were no changes to the agenda.

Ms. Knachel introduced new staff member Celia Wilson and commented that Tamara Farmer would be attending board meetings.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Dr. Linas moved to approve the meeting minutes for the November 8, 2019 – Full Board Meeting.

The motion was seconded and carried.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT: Dr. Brown reported on the General Assembly, security measures and legislation of interest to the Board.

LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY UPATE: **2019 Legislative/Regulatory Update**
Ms. Yeatts reviewed legislation being followed by DHP.

Ms. Yeatts provided an overview of the following regulatory actions that are in process;

- Repeal of professional designation rules and fees
- Handling Fee
- Inactive Licensure

Ms. Knachel commented that the effective date of the inactive license regulations is March 4, 2020, which is in the middle of the renewal period. She indicated that this option will be available to licensees after the effective date of the regulations. Those licensees who want to change status to “inactive” will need to contact the Board.

- Addition of Gabapentin to the TPA Formulary

Ms. Knachel commented that an email notification regarding gabapentin will be sent out to licensees.

- Periodic Review
- Prescribing Opioids

Ms. Knachel provided a copy of the waiver form for electronic transmission of opioid prescriptions and asked the Board to consider how the waivers will be granted.

Dr. Wallace-Davis moved to delegate authority to the Executive Director to grant requested waivers.

The motion failed for lack of a second.

Dr. Clayton-Jeter moved to delegate authority to the Executive Director to grant waivers for “Economic Hardship and Technological Limitations” and consult with the Board President prior to granting a waiver when “Other Exceptional Circumstances” are identified.

The motion was seconded. The Board discussed the issue.

The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Update to Guidance Document 105-14: Bylaws

Ms. Knachel stated that the proposed change to the bylaws rectifies a discrepancy between two guidance documents.

Dr. Roffis moved to accept the changes to Guidance Document 105-14 as proposed.

The motion was seconded and carried.

Consideration to accept Board meeting attendance to meet CE requirement for CEU’s.

The Board discussed this item and did not take any action

BOARD MEMBER TRAINING:

Ms. Moss provided an overview on probable cause review and closing cases explanation.

- BOARD COUNSEL REPORT:** Ms. Mitchell did not have any information to report.
- PRESIDENT’S REPORT:** Dr. Goldberg thanked the Board Members for their service and board staff for their support.
- BOARD OF HEALTH PROFESSION’S REPORT:** Dr. Clayton-Jeter gave a report on the activities of the Board of Health Professions.
- STAFF REPORTS:**
- Executive Director’s Report – Ms. Knachel**
- Statistics**
Ms. Knachel provided an update on board statistics.
- ARBO**
- Annual Meeting: Ms. Knachel stated that Drs. Goldberg, Clayton-Jeter and Wallace-Davis have expressed interest in attending the 2020 meeting in Alexandria, VA.
 - Member Board Update: Ms. Knachel information regarding the ARBO’s failed negotiations with NBEO
- News from NBEO**
Ms. Knachel stated that recent information from NBEO was included in the agenda package.
- Results of CE Audit**
Ms. Knachel reported on the 2018 CE audit results.
- The Board discussed whether to conduct a CE Audit for 2019. Ms. Knachel commented that the Board should make a CE audit decision at first meeting after the renewal period is over. This will be added to the agenda for the July meeting.
- Outreach Emails**
Ms. Knachel reported that on the outreach emails sent to optometry licensees.
- Discipline Report – Ms. Moss**
Ms. Moss provided an overview of the caseload statistics.
- NEW MEETING:** The next scheduled full board meeting is July 7, 2020.
- ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 10:58 a.m.

Fred Goldberg, O.D.
Chair

Leslie L. Knachel, M.P.H.
Executive Director