

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING

BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN OPTOMETRY

CONDENSED MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD APRIL 14, 2023

Date:	April 14, 2023
Time:	9AM
Location:	Teleconference
Attending:	Board Members: Bradley Cross (Chair, OD), Pamela Steffes (OD), Kathleen Rice (OD) Division Staff: Ashley Carabajal (Licensing Examiner), Alison Osborne (Regulations Specialist), Stefanie Davis (Regulations Specialist), Melissa Dumas (Operations Manager), Sylvan Robb (Division Director), Josh Hardy (Investigator), Lisa Sherrill (PDMP Manager), Reid Bowman (Program Coordinator)
Absent:	Michael Mavencamp (OD)

1a. Call to Order: Ethics Report		
Brief Discussion:	Each board member confirmed that had no ethical conflicts to disclose.	
1b. Call to Order: Approve Agenda		
Brief Discussion:	No discussion to amend the agenda.	
Motion:	Move to accept the agenda as written – unanimous consent	
Action Items:	The board will follow the agenda as written unless amended later in the meeting.	
1c. Call to Order: Approve Meeting Minutes		
Brief Discussion:	The board made no changes to the January 20, 2023, board meeting minutes.	
Motion:	Motion to approve January 20, 2023, meeting minutes as written – unanimous consent	
Action Items:	The board approved the January 20, 2023, meeting minutes.	
2. Review of Public Comment for Proposed Regulations		
Brief Discussion:	The board reviewed the public comments for the proposed regulations. The board discussed a suggestion given from the public. The suggestion was adding the verbiage “evaluating or” to 12 AAC 48.370 (b)(1). Dr. Cross confirms with Alison that the board can amend the proposed regulations and still vote to approve them as amended.	
	Ashley confirmed that was the only public comment received.	
Motion:	Move to adopt the proposed regulations as amended. (First: Dr. Steffes; Second: Dr. Rice)	
Recorded Votes:	Dr. Cross - approve	Steffes - approve

	Rice - approve	Mavencamp - absent
Action Items:	The amended proposed regulations will be sent to LAW to be reviewed.	
4. Public Comment		
Brief Discussion:	Ashley Carabajal informed the board there were no public comments at the time.	
4. PDMP Report		
Brief Discussion:	PDMP Manager Lisa Sherrill went over the Quarter 4, 2022 PDMP Basics Report with the board. This report covered the number of registered optometrists in Alaska and how many DEA registrations and PDMP designations there are. Dr. Cross mentioned, based off the PDMP Basics Report, there were four optometrists that were out of compliance with the 30-day deadline for DEA registered optometrists to register with the PDMP. Lisa discussed the PDMP Assessment with the board.	
Action Items:	Lisa and Ashley will meet to determine what will be done when licensed optometrists who are DEA Registered do not register with the PDMP within 30 days.	
4. Division Update – Financial Report - FY23 QTR 2		
Brief Discussion:	Operations Manager Melissa Dumas went over the quarter 2 financial report and explained the quarter 3 financial report would be available soon. This report went over the revenue and expenditures for the Board of Examiners in Optometry. The report showed a 6% increase in licensure between FY19 and FY22.	
4. Investigative Report		
Brief Discussion:	Investigator Josh Hardy explained the investigative report. Josh explained cases marked review complete meant the review has been completed and no additional information was found because of that review. Dr. Cross asked if Ashley would send over these reports to keep the board updated on applicants being sent to investigations.	
Action Items:	Ashley will send an email to the board with the applicants under review.	
4. New Business – Discuss ETP Request - no longer tabled, discussion requested		
Brief Discussion:	Dr. Steffes explained that local anesthesia techniques are covered by Alaska Optometry licenses and a request for expanded therapeutic procedures was not required. Dr. Steffes explained that chalazion management and radiofrequency surgery are covered in the ETP Request already under “removal of presumed benign lesions of the ocular adnexa. Dr. Steffes requests the licenses remove these items from the initial ETP Request, before the ETP Request is approved.	
Motion:	Move to approve laser capsulotomy, laser peripheral iridotomy, laser trabeculoplasty, removal of presumed benign lesions of the ocular adnexa and permanent epilation of cilia for correction of trichiasis and include a note on why local anesthesia techniques, chalazion management, and radiofrequency surgery was not approved.	
Recorded Votes:	Dr. Cross - yes	Dr. Steffes - yes
	Dr. Rice - yes	Dr. Mavencamp - absent
Action Items:	Pam will send a draft note via email to Ashley. Ashley will send an approval letter to the licensee with a note that clarifies the restrictions on the licensees request for expanded therapeutic procedures.	
5. New Business – Discuss Request for CE Exemption		

Brief Discussion:	<i>Dr. Cross explained the applicant did not meet the CE requirements for renewals – there is already a process in place if their license lapses, they have under 2 years to get caught up on CE – the board will then decide to reinstate the lapsed license. Dr. Cross explained if the applicant can make up the missing CE in 2 years, then there is no reason for the board to make an exception at this time.</i>
Action Items:	<i>The board will deny the applicants request for CE exemption but encourage them to follow the statutes in place to get their license reinstated. Ashley will email the applicant explaining why the board cannot make an exemption.</i>

Next Meeting:	<i>October 6, 2023, at 9AM – teleconference</i>
Adjournment:	<i>10:41AM</i>