

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

**ALASKA STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
February 4, 2015**

By authority of AS 08.01.070(2) and in compliance with the provision of AS 44.62, Article 6, a scheduled meeting of the Board of Examiners in Optometry was held on February 4, at the State Office Building, 333 Willoughby Ave., Juneau, AK., 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Conference Room A.

**Agenda Item 1      Call to Order**

The teleconference for the state of Alaska Board of Examiners in Optometry began when a quorum had called in at 8:04am.

Those constituting a quorum of the board, were:

Paul Barney, OD Chair  
Forrest Messerschmidt, OD  
Steve Stralka, OD  
Eric Lingle, Public Member

Present from the Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing were:

Sher Zinn, Records and Licensing Supervisor  
Virginia Geary, Licensing Examiner

**Regulations Change:**

Dr. Barney explained the history of the military courtesy licensure process regulation and that courses by the American Academy of Optometry have not been accepted by regulation. The regulation change would allow education courses to meet Alaska CE requirements. Dr. Stralka didn't think the board should consider a military courtesy license regulation change for 1-2 people. He said they should get a license like all other applicants. Dr. Barney explained a situation in Kodiak in which an optometrist didn't have the hours needed for Alaska licensure because she had been home caring for young children. While in Alaska with her military spouse she needed to be able to work to get those hours. Dr. Stralka expressed an amendment might be added to say if the spouse was on active duty in the state as a permanent duty member. Sher Zinn, Licensing Supervisor, directed the boards attention to the Centralized Statutes concerning Military Courtesy Licensure (08.01.063) as the wording was already set in place. Ms. Zinn said the wording could be added to the application process that active duty military orders are submitted with the application.

**ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY DR. STRALKA, SECONDED BY DR. MESSERSCHMIDT, AND APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY, IT WAS RESOLVED TO AMEND THE REGULATION PROJECT TO REQUIRE A COPY OF THE ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY ORDERS.**

**ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY DR. MESSERSCHMIDT, SECONDED BY DR. STRALKA AND APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY, IT WAS RESOLVED TO ADOPT THE MILITARY COURTESY LICENSE REGULATION WITH THE CHANGE.**

The change will come under 12AAC 48.035(b) to state:

(4) Copy of official active duty military orders showing the spouse is assigned to a duty station in this state.

Dr. Barney asked if anyone had any discussion on the CE course regulation. No one did.

**ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY DR. MESSERSCHMIDT, SECONDED BY DR. STRALKA AND APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY, IT WAS RESOLVED TO ADOPT THE REGULATION FOR EDUCATIONAL COURSES OFFERED BY THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF OPTOMETRY IF RELATED TO THE PRACTICE OF OPTOMETRY.**

Dr. Barney welcomed new board member Dr. Stephen Stralka to the board.

Off the record: 8:22am.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
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Virginia Geary, Licensing Examiner

Approved,

 4-10-2015  
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Dr. Paul Barney, Chairperson  
Alaska Board of Optometry