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**STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING
BOARD OF EXMINERS IN OPTMETRY**

**TELECONFERENCE
JANUARY 22, 2019
Juneau, Alaska**

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By authority of AS 08.01.070(2) and in compliance with the provision of AS 44.62,
Article 6, a scheduled teleconference of the Board of Examiners in Optometry was held on
January 22, 2019, at 333 Willoughby Avenue, 9th Floor, Juneau AK

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Agenda Item 1 – Call Meeting to Order

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Dr. Barney called the meeting to order on Tuesday, January 22, 2019 for the Board of Examiners in Optometry at 12:00 p.m. This meeting was public noticed on December 14, 2018 on the Alaska Online Public Notice system and in the Anchorage Daily News.

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Board Members present during the conference call:

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Dr. Damien Delzer, Fairbanks
Dr. Pamela Steffes, Sitka
Mr. Eric Lingle, Juneau
Dr. Paul Barney, Anchorage
Dr. Erik Christianson, Ketchikan: joined the teleconference at 12:16 PM

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Present from the Division of Corporations Business and Professional Licensing:

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Patricia Lonergan, Licensing Examiner

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Agenda Item 2 – Review / Approve Agenda

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Dr. Barney asked if everyone had an opportunity to review the agenda. Staff requested that board consider adding a request from Dr. Steffes to attending SECO on the agenda. Dr. Steffes reviewed with the board that she will be attending the SECO conference in February and saw that ARBO was having a regional meeting and would like to attend. Dr. Barney asked if there would be any expense to the board for attendance. Dr. Steffes indicated there would be no expense to the board.

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On a motion duly made by Dr. Damien Delzer, seconded by Mr. Eric Lingle and approved, it was:

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RESOLVED that Dr. Steffes would represent the Alaska board at the ARBO Southern Regional four hour meeting on February 23, 2019 during the SECO conference and approve the agenda.

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ROLL CALL VOTE:

Board Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain/Recuse
Dr. Damien Delzer	X		
Mr. Eric Lingle	X		
Dr. Pamela Steffes			X
Dr. Barney	X		

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Agenda Item 3 – Review Regulations Project

53 The board reviewed 12 AAC 48.035, expanded procedures regulation received from the reviewing
54 attorney in the AAG's office. Initial discussion centered on the accrediting organization of the course that
55 would be required. The Accreditation Council on Optometric Education (ACOE) is the accrediting
56 agency for all of the Colleges of Optometry, they are recognized by both the Council for Higher
57 Education Accreditation and The Higher Learning Commission in the US Department of Education. The
58 ACOE is also overseen by The Council for Higher Education Accreditation. There are a couple of
59 different recognized accreditation sources. The board agreed that Dr. Barney will clarify, and check with
60 the AOA to confirm the exact name of the accrediting organization, and that would be added to 12 AAC
61 48.305(b) without changing any of the other verbiage in the regulation.

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63 The board then discussed at what point a licensee would be able to perform the expanded procedures.
64 Discussion concluded that the intent of the board is that the licensee must have a current license in this
65 state and must have completed the educational requirements outlined in the regulation prior to being able
66 to perform the expanded procedures.

67
68 The board assessed the intent on reviewing and approving the acceptable educational courses. The board
69 would like to make it clear that the course of instruction may be considered for approval rather than
70 indicate if certain requirements are met the course is approved. The board wants to maintain the authority
71 to approve educational courses.

72
73 The board then evaluated the intent of providing an affidavit of active clinical practice in performing
74 advanced procedures since the completion of the educational course for those applying for an Alaska
75 license by credential. The board wants to ensure that the licensee has engaged in active clinical practice
76 performing advanced procedures a minimum of 1040 hours for each year since the completion of the
77 approved educational course.

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79 The board discussed the question posed from the reviewing attorney, inquiring if pre and post-operative
80 care is now provided in the current course of practice. The board confirmed that pre and post-operative
81 care is currently being provided in the normal course of practice by licensees, a licensed optometrist
82 would not need the expanded procedures training to provide pre and post-operative care.

83
84 Staff reviewed with the board that the regulations specialist would review the meeting minutes and make
85 the necessary changes based on what the board has discussed during this conference call, and, determine
86 if they needed to be reviewed again by the department of law. Once completed the regulations specialist
87 would send the regulation out for public comment.

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89 **On a motion duly made by Dr. Erik Christiansen, seconded by Mr. Eric Lingle and**
90 **approved, it was:**

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92 **RESOLVED to move forward 12 AAC 48.305 to the regulations specialist for public**
93 **comment as amended.**

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95 **ROLL CALL VOTE:**

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Board Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain/Recuse
Dr. Damien Delzer	X		
Mr. Eric Lingle	X		
Dr. Pamela Steffes	X		
Dr. Erik Christianson	X		
Dr. Barney	X		

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98 The board reviewed 12 AAC 48.340, Prescription and use of pharmaceutical agent or controlled
99 substance and 12 AAC 48.350, Use of controlled substances: limitations that had gone out for public
100 comment. There was no public comment to review.

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102 **On a motion duly made by Dr. Damien Delzer, seconded by Dr. Erik Christianson and**
103 **approved, it was:**
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105 **RESOLVED to adopt 12 AAC 48.340 and 12 AAC 48.350 and move those regulations**
106 **forward to the department of law to be enacted.**

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108 **ROLL CALL VOTE:**

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Board Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain/Recuse
Dr. Damien Delzer	X		
Mr. Eric Lingle	X		
Dr. Pamela Steffes	X		
Dr. Erik Christianson	X		
Dr. Barney	X		

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112 The board discussed Military Lapsed Licensing and how to transition a licensee from the military
113 exemption license once a person has been discharged from the military. The board concluded reinstating
114 a lapsed military license for someone who was no longer in the military did not make sense as the intent
115 of the military exemption is to exempt people who are currently active in the military service. The board
116 will review this further during the April 5, 2019 board meeting and start any new regulation projected
117 needed at that time. The board briefly discussed, in general, applying by examination and applying by
118 credentials. Staff asked if the board would accept an affidavit of clinical practice hours signed by a
119 relative of an applicant. The board discussed that a potential bias could exist, but everyone should
120 recognize that falsifying a document would not only put the licensee's license in jeopardy, and also put
121 the verifying license in jeopardy.

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124 The conference call adjourned at 1:05 PM

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126 Respectfully Submitted:
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130 Patricia Lonergan, Licensing Examiner

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133 Date
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136 Dr. Paul Barney, Chairman
137 Alaska Board of Optometry

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139 Date