

STATE OF NEVADA



Board of Dispensing Opticians

Minutes of Public Meeting: June 11, 2020

PLEASE NOTE:

Per the Governor's orders regarding COVID-19, there was no public location provided for this meeting. All interested parties were invited to attend via teleconference.

Board Members Present:

Jennifer Letten, President
Mark Myers, Vice President
Tamara Sternod, Secretary
Marilyn Brainard, Treasurer

Board Staff Present:

Corinne Sedran, Executive Director
Laena St-Jules, Deputy Attorney General

1. Call to order
The meeting was delayed due to technical difficulties. Ms. Letten called the meeting to order and called roll at 5:26 p.m. Ms. Brainard was unable to get through on the conference line.
2. Public comment
There was no public comment.
3. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Approval of previous board meeting minutes
April 16, 2020 Board Meeting
Motion: Ms. Sternod moved to approve the minutes as presented.
Vote: The motion passed unanimously.
Ms. Brainard announced she had joined the call.
4. Announcement of newly licensed Ophthalmic Dispensers:
Ms. Sedran announced the opticians licensed since the last meeting:
716 Randee Mattingly
717 Iskander Yared
718 Veronica Verduzco
719 James Kyles

720 Jesenia Perez

5. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Updates to Board response and recommendations on COVID-19 practices

Discussion: Ms. Sedran said the recommendations made at the last meeting were still in effect and she had no further updates. Ms. Brainard noted some locations are still operating with shorter hours and limited availability to pick up prescriptions. The other board members did not have further updates or recommendations.

6. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Review and discussion of proposed statute/regulation changes; discussion of possible small business impact

Discussion: Ms. Sedran reviewed a list of proposed changes discussed at previous meetings. She also recommended creating a consolidated fees section, similar to those in other licensing boards' regulations. Ms. Sternod discussed the proposed management provisions, saying the board needs to ensure there are no loopholes in this section. Mr. Myers suggested the board add a more detailed description of day-to-day management activities. Ms. Letten recommended removing the precursor "ophthalmic" from the manager title, as the distinction between an ophthalmic and business manager is no longer necessary. Ms. Brainard suggested a provision prohibiting a licensed optician from acting as the manager of record for more than one location. Ms. St-Jules said she would research the preferred language for the requested provisions. She said the fee provisions could probably be combined under a single section. Ms. Letten agreed this would be preferable to having fee requirements scattered throughout the regulations.

Ms. Sternod asked about proposed sanitation guidelines. Ms. Sedran said she had used provisions in the Cosmetology Board's regulations as a reference. Ms. Letten suggested keeping a provision pertaining to sanitizing equipment and removing one pertaining to proper attire and footwear. Ms. Sternod suggested all ophthalmic offices should be required to adhere to CDC guidelines and asked if the national ophthalmic organization has its own set of guidelines. Ms. Letten said the board would need to review any outside organizations' guidelines before deciding whether to make them regulatory requirements.

Ms. Sternod addressed the sections pertaining to ophthalmic equipment. She said more digital equipment is being used due to COVID-19 guidelines and it is likely refractions will be done on iPads and other digital devices in the future. Ms. Letten said the equipment currently listed in the regulations should still be required, but the wording should be revised to allow for the use of digital equipment; Ms. Sternod agreed.

Ms. Sedran addressed the Special License for applicants who transfer to Nevada from other states or territories. She suggested a provision clarifying that licensing requirements in the applicant's state of origin must be substantially equivalent to Nevada's requirements. Ms. Letten agreed this provision should be added.

Ms. Sedran asked about the potential small business impacts of the proposed regulation changes. Ms. Letten said she did not believe any of the proposed changes would have a financial impact on small businesses. The other board members did not present any potential small business impacts.

Motion: Ms. Brainard moved to accept the current draft proposal presented, with the suggested modifications incorporated.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

7. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Report and recommendations on apprentice educations programs by assigned board member

Mr. Myers did not have any recommendations to present; he is currently reviewing study materials supplied by Penn Foster. Ms. Letten asked that the study materials be distributed to the other board members before recommendations are made. Ms. St-Jules said the other board members could review the materials but not discuss them outside of meetings.

8. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Financial items

a. Review and acceptance of **March and April 2020** financial reports

Motion: Ms. Brainard moved to accept the reports as presented.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

b. Review and approval of proposed FY 2020-21 budget

Motion: Ms. Sternod moved to approve the budget as presented.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

9. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Executive Director's report

a. Executive Branch Audit Committee updates/Sunset Subcommittee updates

Ms. Sedran said the Sunset Subcommittee had sent a survey regarding licensing practices to the occupational licensing boards in May; she submitted responses to the survey by the May 22nd deadline. She did not have any further updates but will continue to monitor the actions of both committees and apprise the board of any changes.

b. Administrative/State report updates

Ms. Sedran updated the board members on current licensing numbers, which include 353 active opticians, 25 active limited opticians, and 124 apprentices.

c. General updates

Ms. Sedran said she had been notified by the Vision Expo coordinators that the spring conference had been cancelled and would be combined with the September Vision Expo West Conference, pending potential COVID-19 restrictions. The organization is also setting up online courses in the event the September conference is also cancelled.

10. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Board member comment and future agenda items

Ms. Letten asked if the Penn Foster administrators could be contacted to obtain additional study materials. Ms. Sedran said additional physical materials may be difficult to obtain, but she would distribute the online materials to the other board members.

11. Public comment

There was no public comment.

Ms. Letten closed the meeting at 6:35 p.m.