

# STATE OF NEVADA



## Board of Dispensing Opticians

### Minutes of Public Meeting: April 8, 2021, at 5:00 p.m.

#### PLEASE NOTE:

Per the Governor's orders regarding COVID-19 closures, 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  
Brett Roames, Member

#### Board Staff Present:

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

1. Call to order  
Board President Jennifer Letten called the meeting to order and called roll at 5:01 p.m.
2. Public comment  
There was no public comment.
3. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Approval of previous board meeting minutes  
**February 11, 2021** Board Meeting  
**Motion:** Mr. Myers moved to approve the minutes as presented.  
**Vote:** The motion passed unanimously.
4. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Review and discussion of AB 391; updates on progress of bill  
Ms. Sedran said she had just received a draft of the proposed language for AB 391 from the Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB) two weeks before. The LCB had previously informed her they would provide proposed language in January 2021; this would have provided the Board time to review the language before sending it to the sponsor. Due to tight deadlines and the legislature being overburdened this year, the LCB did not supply the draft language until the end of March; the LCB also informed her the draft needed to be approved immediately to meet the introduction deadline.

She reviewed the draft with Ms. Letten and requested the LCB make several edits to better reflect the Board's intent. The edited version has been submitted to the bill's sponsor, Assemblywoman Natha Anderson.

The bill was heard two days after it was submitted to the sponsor by the Assembly Commerce and Labor; Ms. Sedran attended the hearing and answered questions from the Committee Members. She is concerned some of the language will be amended in ways that do not reflect the Board's interests and has discussed these concerns with the Board's lobbyist, Kathleen Laxalt. However, Ms. Laxalt said the sponsor can amend the bill any way she chooses; she also said the Board must accommodate any changes requested by any of the Committee Members if the bill is to have a chance of passing.

Ms. Sedran discussed various amendments requested by the Committee Members. These include changes to the Board's structure of fees, its roles and responsibilities, and its requirements for foreign and out-of-state applicants.

5. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: 2021 Legislative Session updates and review of legislative tracking  
Ms. Sedran reviewed various bills that may have a financial or administrative impact upon the occupational licensing boards.
6. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Report and recommendations on apprentice education programs by assigned board member; discussion and decision by Board  
Mr. Myers stated he had no items to present.
7. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Report and recommendations on continuing education courses and providers by assigned board member  
Mr. Roames said he had researched continuing education (CE) requirements for several other states that license opticians. Ms. Letten asked whether the CE courses provided by other states are educationally equivalent to the Board's approved courses; if so, the Board might approve them for credit towards Nevada's renewal requirements. Mr. Roames said he was not able to access the course content offered on the other states' websites, but he relayed the information he had gathered on their CE requirements. Ms. Letten suggested Mr. Roames contact the individual boards to request access to their online courses for purposes of approving them for Nevada CE credit. The board members thanked Mr. Roames for his research on the topic.
8. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Financial items
  - a. Review and acceptance of **January and February 2021** financial reports; discussion on budget items  
**Motion:** Ms. Sternod moved to approve the reports as presented.  
**Vote:** The motion passed unanimously.
  - b. Discussion and decision on pay/benefits adjustments for Executive Director  
**Discussion:** Ms. Letten reviewed information she had received from the Public Employees Benefits Program (PEBP) on the costs of enrolling the Executive Director in one of the state's health insurance plans. Ms. Brainard said it is very important to provide good health insurance benefits to the executive director.  
**Motion:** Ms. Brainard moved to enroll the executive director in the PPO health plan provided by PEBP.  
**Vote:** The motion passed unanimously.
9. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Executive Director's report

- a. Legislative/executive committee updates  
Ms. Sedran said she had already provided her updates on this item earlier in the meeting.
- b. Administrative/state report updates  
Ms. Sedran did not have any items to report.
- c. General updates  
Ms. Sedran did not have any items to report.

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

Ms. Letten proposed the board meet in person at the Reno office for the June board meeting. Ms. Sternod suggested the meeting take place earlier in the day so the board members can travel to and from Reno the same day. Ms. Letten asked Ms. Sedran to make travel arrangements with the Southern Nevada board members.

Ms. Sternod asked Ms. Sedran to keep the board members apprised of updates on the various bills discussed under agenda item 5 between now and the next meeting.

11. Public comment

There was no public comment.

Ms. Letten adjourned the meeting at 6:20 p.m.