

STATE OF NEVADA



Board of Dispensing Opticians

Minutes of Public Meeting: October 13, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

Board Members Present:

Jennifer Letten, President
Mark Myers, Vice President
Chris Esparza, Member
Jennifer Brusven, Member

Board Staff Present:

Corinne Sedran, Executive Director
Laena St-Jules, Deputy Attorney General
Lea Tauchen, Board Lobbyist
Tray Abney, Board Lobbyist

1. Call to order

Ms. Letten called the meeting to order and called roll at 5:06 p.m. Ms. Marilyn Brainard, Board Treasurer, was not present.

2. Public comment

There was no public comment.

3. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Approval of previous board meeting minutes

August 11, 2022 Board Meeting

Motion: Mr. Myers moved to approve the minutes as presented.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Letten announced she would be taking the agenda items out of order and proceeded to Item 5.

4. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Report and recommendations on apprentice education programs by assigned board member; assignment of projects

a. Re-review of approved apprentice home-study/online education programs

Mr. Myers said he does not have any updates; he is awaiting further correspondence from the National Academy of Opticianry.

Ms. Brusven corresponded with the Contact Lens Society of America and they allowed her to set up a test account. She will have access to all the same educational components the apprentices have and will begin assessing the program.

b. Review of Commission on Opticianry Accreditation (COA)

Mr. Esparza did not have any updates.

5. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Report and recommendations on continuing education courses and providers by assigned board member
Ms. Letten did not have any items to report.
6. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Report and recommendations on Optometry Board legislative initiatives by assigned board member
Ms. Brusven did not have any items to report.
7. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Lobbying and legislative updates and initiatives
Mr. Abney with the Abney Tauchen Group gave an overview of the Board's progress on its legislative initiatives. He and Ms. Tauchen have been tasked with finding a sponsor for the Board's clean-up bill, which will be introduced during the 2023 legislative session. They had initially considered finding a sponsor on the Health and Human Services Committee, however, after speaking with legislative leadership, they determined the better course of action was to find a legislator with experience on the Commerce and Labor Committee. They are hoping to work with Assemblywoman Melissa Hardy, who is well-liked and effective at working with people on both sides of the aisle. Once things have settled down after the November elections, they will know whether they have a firm commitment from Ms. Hardy. If she cannot sponsor the Board's bill, she will work with them to find the right sponsor.

Ms. Letten said she did not have any questions at this time and thanked Mr. Abney and Ms. Tauchen for their update.

8. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Discussion on LCB File No. R101-22P; discussion and decision on hosting regulatory workshop and hearing

Discussion: Ms. Sedran said she received official draft language from the LCB, however, she has been working with the drafter the past couple of weeks to modify some of the language to better reflect the Board's intent. There are a few sections that will need to be amended prior to the regulation being adopted. She suggests the Board move forward with scheduling a regulation workshop and she will continue working with the LCB in the meantime.

Ms. St-Jules outlined the regulation adoption process. The Board must host both a public workshop to present the regulation and solicit feedback from the public, as well as a hearing to determine whether to adopt the proposed regulation. The workshop may be hosted by Board staff and does not require attendance by the Board members; the hearing must be hosted by the Board with a quorum of members present. The Board can make minor revisions to the regulation at the hearing.

Motion: Ms. Letten moved to delegate the hosting of a regulation workshop to Ms. Sedran.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

9. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Discussion and updates with representative for the American Board of Opticianry
The representative for the ABO was not in attendance.

Ms. Letten returned to Item 4 at the conclusion of Item 9.

10. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Financial items

Review and acceptance of **July and August 2022** financial reports

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

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

11. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Executive Director's report

a. Office and licensing updates

Ms. Sedran updated the Board on licensing numbers for the year. Seventeen apprentice licenses were issued since the last meeting, with a total of 70 new licenses issued so far this year; this is already an increase from 2021 when 66 new apprentice licenses were issued for the whole year. Five new optician licenses were issued since the last meeting, with a total of 19 issued so far for the year; again, this is an increase from 2021 when 12 new optician licenses were issued for the year.

b. General updates

Ms. Sedran said Marilyn Brainard, Board Treasurer, resigned her seat on the Board because she moved out of state to be near family. She will let the Governor's Office know the Board has an opening for a new public member. The public member cannot be someone who works in the profession or is closely related to someone who works in the profession; it is an independent seat. Ms. Sedran also updated the Board on progress on the online Laws and Ethics Exam. All testing on the prototype is complete and the program will be ready for use in the next couple of months; the program will eliminate the need for mailed exams.

12. Board member comment and future agenda items

There was no board member comment.

13. Public comment

There was no public comment.

Ms. Letten thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 5:35 p.m.