STATE OF NEVADA



Board of Dispensing Opticians

Minutes of Public Meeting: October 12, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

Board Members Present:

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

Board Staff Present:

Corinne Sedran, Executive Director Ziwei Zheng, DAG Michael Cabrera, Board Counsel

- Call to order Ms. Letten called the meeting to order and called roll at 5:04 p.m.
- 2. Public comment There was no public comment.
- FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Approval of previous board meeting minutes August 24, 2023 Board Meeting Motion: Mr. Myers moved to approve the minutes as presented. Vote: The motion passed unanimously.
- 4. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Confirmation of newly licensed Dispensing Opticians793 Oscar Reyes795 Karen Mikinka794 Ronald Hedges796 Kaitlyn Gibson

Motion: Ms. Brusven moved to confirm the licensing of the new opticians. **Vote:** The motion passed unanimously.

5. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Updates on Proposed Regulation (LCB File No. R067-23) and issuance of Board directive regarding regulations inconsistent with amended NRS Chapter 637 Discussion: Ms. Sedran said she had not yet received a formal draft of the Board's proposed regulations from the Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB) and would need to receive the draft prior to scheduling a hearing for November. The regulations must be amended to reflect the changes to NRS Chapter 637 that were made during the 2023 Legislative Session. In the meantime, the statue conflicts with the regulations in several ways, and the Board should issue a directive to the Executive Director to follow the provisions of the statute, rather than the regulations, where the two conflict. Specifically, the amended NRS 637.100 states an apprentice optician who completes a home-study program must complete 2 years of on-the-job training, whereas the regulations state the apprentice must complete 3 years of on-the-job training. Ms. Sedran asked the Board for a directive to issue dispensing optician licenses based upon the new 2-year requirement, rather than the repealed 3-year requirement that is still referenced in the regulations.

Motion: Ms. Brusven moved to direct the Executive Director to issue licenses based upon the requirements contained in the amended NRS 637.100. **Vote:** The motion passed unanimously.

6. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Updates on the Office of Nevada Boards, Commissions and Councils (OBCC), pursuant to SB 431

Ms. Sedran said OBCC had requested a copy of the Board's policies and procedures, specifically those related to the administrative functions of the Board. She will compile the Board's policies into a handbook for review and approval at a future meeting. She has not received any further correspondence from the Governor's Office related to the Board or the Executive Orders issued in January.

7. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Discussion and updates with representative for the American Board of Opticianry (ABO)

A representative for the ABO was not in attendance at this meeting.

- 8. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Executive Director's report
 - a. Financial report

Ms. Sedran said the Board will not need to withdraw funds from its CD account prior to the maturation date of the account, as was proposed at prior meetings. The account matures at the end of October, and she will wait to reinvest the funds in November, after paying any outstanding fees or balances owed by the Board. The Board incurred extraordinary lobbying and legal fees in 2023 due to responding to the Governor's Executive Orders and presenting a cleanup bill during the 2023 Legislative Session. The Board's costs for these services should be much lower in the coming year. Ms. Sedran will need to complete a year-end financial balance sheet to submit to the LCB in December, and will correspond with Ms. Letten regarding the current financial statements next week.

b. Licensing updates

Ms. Sedran said the Board issued 4 new optician licenses since the last meeting (for a total of 405 active optician licenses), and 7 new apprentice licenses (for a total of 141 active apprentice licenses).

- c. Office and general updates There were no updates under this item.
- FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Review and decision on stipulated settlement agreement (this portion of the meeting may be closed pursuant to NRS 241.030(1)(a) to consider character, alleged misconduct, professional competence, or physical or mental health of a person) Case 2023-01: Ryan, Sholeh

Ms. Zheng directed the Board members to review the facts of the case and the terms of the proposed settlement agreement; she provided a general overview of the terms. Ms. Brusven stated she had

prior knowledge of the facts of the case and would abstain from any discussion or vote on the matter.
Ms. Sedran asked that the Board also decide whether Ms. Ryan has met the requirements for licensure as a dispensing optician, pending the terms of any agreement.
Motion: Mr. Myers moved to approve the proposed agreement as presented.
Vote: The motion passed by a vote of 3 in favor, with one abstaining.
Motion: Ms. Letten moved that the Board determined Ms. Ryan has met the requirements for licensure as a dispensing optician, pending the terms of the approved agreement.
Vote: The motion passed by a vote of 3 in favor, with 1 abstaining.

10. Public comment

Brian Deiner, representing the Optical Training Institute (OTI), said his organization sent a letter to the Board and the Board's counsel regarding their apprentice education program, and would like to know when they will receive a response. They would like the Board to continue discussions on the criteria for approving apprentice training and education programs.

Ms. Letten thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 5:33 p.m.