

MINNESOTA BOARD OF OPTOMETRY

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(651) 201-2762

September 23, 2015 Board Meeting

The Minnesota Board of Optometry met on Wednesday, September 23, 2015 in the Conference Room of Suite 403, University Park Plaza Building, 2829 University Avenue SE, Minneapolis, MN for the purpose of conducting such business as would normally come before the Board.

Patrick O'Neill, O.D., President called the meeting to order at 8: 57 AM.

Introductions and roll call of all board members was completed. A quorum was declared.

Present were:

Kari Slotten, Public Member
Ron Czerepak, Public Member
Roger Pabst, O.D.
John Muellerleile, O.D.
Patrick O'Neill, O.D.
Michelle Falk, O.D.
Don Sipola, O.D.

Also present were:

Jennifer Middleton, Office of the Attorney General
Beth Coleman, Minnesota Optometric Association
 Anna Hartsel, Office and Administrative Specialist, Sr.
 Randy Snyder, Executive Director
 Joan Sipola, Guest

Members Absent: none

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Sipola, and seconded by Slotten. Motion passed.

Minutes of the July 8, 2015 were approved; motion by Muellerleile, Seconded by Pabst and the minutes were approved.

The new licensee report was approved as presented with motion to approve by Pabst, seconded by Slotten. The following applicants/new licensees requesting a Minnesota Optometry license were presented to the Board. Each applicant has provided documentation meeting the requirements for licensure by examination in the state of Minnesota as a licensed optometrist. The board approved a delegation of authority for board staff to initially license candidates that provide an application with all requirements clearly met.

Huttner, Brenna
Penix, Kimberly
Slepicka, Teresa
Lappegaard, Cassandra

Martinson, Scott
Simmons, Kevy
Borgenheimer, Christine

The board reviewed an endorsement application from a non-TMOD out-of-state Optometrist and denied the petition based on the fact that all Minnesota licensed OD's have successfully completed the TMOD exam. The applicant will be directed to NBEO to determine their route to completion of the exam. Motion to deny the request was made by Pabst, seconded by Slotten. Motion carried.

A second endorsement application was withdrawn prior to the meeting and was not heard by the board.

The June 30, 2015 year ending financial report was provided. The report identifies that 100% of our spending authority has been spent prior to June 30, 2015. Expenditures for the year were provided to the board. The Board reviewed annual budget revenues and expenditures reports, as well as other financial reports generated by the Administrative Services Unit (ASU) and Board, per the 2005 OLA Financial Audit recommendation stating that Board members should be provided detailed, monthly revenue and expenditure accounting transactions report for their review and approval during regularly scheduled Board meetings, no less than annually. No concerns were raised about the monthly revenue and expenditure accounting transactions. Financial reports were accepted; motion by Pabst, seconded by Slotten; motion carried. Dr. Sipola asked if the financial report could be provided each quarter instead of annual. Snyder will review with ASU.

Dr. Sipola provided the Minnesota Chapter 148 Statute update. The Office of the Revisor updated the Statutes on the public website on September 14, 2015. The initial content and goals of the legislation were achieved with some minor legislator initiated language changes included in the final language. The word "Topical" was reinserted in the title of MS 148.575 in this release. Snyder was directed to contact the Revisor's office. Dr. Sipola and Falk are working on drafting new questions for the State Jurisprudence exam with completion by December 1, 2015 at the latest. The current exam will be suspended until then as some questions are invalid at this point. NBEO will be contacted following the meeting to engage in an action plan and public notice will be placed on the website regarding the suspended exam status. The questions prepared by the committee, will be sent to NBEO for exam structure, stem and distractors and final exam language review. They will then be returned to the MBO Executive Committee which will determine what 'core questions' will be considered essential and placed on all versions of the exams. The committee is recommending two exam versions for exam security reasons. Motion to accept action plan by Pabst, Seconded by Slotten. Motion carried.

Mr. Snyder reviewed the upcoming license renewal policies. The board will attempt to clarify that NON-COPE CE entered into OE Tracker is approved. Discussion occurred on clarifying this on the MBO website and also to request that OE Tracker should enter the MNYR-#### approval number i.e., MN15-001 on the individual OD-OE Tracker to provide additional assurance that the CE has been approved. The 2016 online renewal system will be live around November 1, 2015 with an email blast announcing the 'go live' status sent to all licensed Optometrists. Dr. O'Neill and the Executive Committee will publish a renewal newsletter with current issues. Motion to accept the renewal guidelines as discussed was made by Dr. Pabst, seconded by Slotten. Motion carried.

The "Sunshine Law" FAQ was approved and will be uploaded to the website. Motion by Muelleleile, Second by Sipola. Motion Carried.

Beth Coleman, representing the Minnesota Optometric Association (MOA) presented their 2016 public policy initiatives. The MOA is advocating for oversight of Kiosks and new online refraction services that don't include a complete ocular health assessment; completed by an OD or Ophthalmologist. The MOA statutory proposal would have the oversight board/agency be the MBO for complaint resolution. Board members discussed public safety, the importance of eye health and the balancing of consumer safety and economic decision making. The board's public position is neutral as we only enact what is legislatively directed but would honor the legislative intent if statutorily directed. This is an important public safety issue and further discussion occurred on creating a public consumer protection announcement for citizens to think through the growing number of options for correcting vision deficiency. The board supports the work of the MOA and is not opposed to the legislative public policy intent.

Randy Snyder updated the board on the Board of Optometry Position Description (PD) and managerial review for compensation, as originally initiated by Minnesota Management and Budget Office (MMB) in May, 2015. The PD was brought before the MBO in July and MMB subsequently suspended work on the project for MBO and multiple state agencies. Once explained to the MBO, Chair O'Neill stated his concern of the current compensation grid and placement of the MBO Executive Director at the lowest among the 17 boards. He felt the board deserved a response from MMB

specifically addressing succession planning and directed that a letter be drafted under his name to review the current compensation grid assignment.

There has been no official closure on the National Practitioner Data Bank audit. It is considered completed without comment and will be removed from future agendas.

Two emails were reviewed by the MBO.

Dr. O'Neill is reviewing the website and offered feedback for improvement. He also stated that if other board members had an interest in writing 'eye health' or 'eye safety' public safety articles or provider notices, as part of community outreach, it would be beneficial as a value added to add to the work of the board. Members conceptually agreed.

Monica Feider, Health Professional Services Program (HPSP) manager presented an overview of the work of HPSP and the past participation of Optometrists over the years. Fourteen OD's have received support since the board initiated the program with the other health licensing boards in 2001.

Dr. Pabst updated the board on the work of ARBO.

Randy Snyder presented the Federation of Associations of state Regulatory Boards (FARB) annual meeting invitation. Although a very worthwhile agenda and event designed especially for the public members; the board determined that financially the board could not send a representative to the January, 2016 meeting.

The board will conduct the next regularly scheduled business meeting on January 13, March 23, July 6, and September 28, 2016.

Meetings are open to the public and normally held at University Park Plaza, 2829 University Avenue SE, Minneapolis, MN.

The meeting was adjourned at 12; 15 PM by Pabst and seconded by Czerepak. Motion to adjourn carried with the next call of meeting to be January 13, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,



Randy Snyder
Executive Director

Approved by



Don Sipola, O.D.
Secretary