

**Iowa Board of Optometry  
Meeting Minutes  
April 7, 2011**

**Call to Order:**

A meeting of the Iowa Board of Optometry was called to order at 10:03 a.m. on April 7, 2011. The meeting was held in the Professional Licensure Board Room, Lucas State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa

**Roll Call:**

Michael Ohlson, O.D.; Barbara Washburn, O.D.; Jeffrey Foreman, O.D.; Sharon Tharp, O.D.; Charles Follett; and Carolyn Warkentin;

Members Absent: Terry Brown, O.D.

**Staff Present:**

Judy Manning (Board Executive), Barb Huey, Bureau Chief, Karla Hoover (Office Secretary), and September Lau, (AAG):

**Public Present:** Gary Ellis (AOA), Susan Cameron (IOA), Joe Kelly (IOA), Lorinda Inman (Board of Nursing)

**Approval of Minutes:**

A motion to approve the January 6, 2011 minutes was made Dr. Foreman and seconded by Carolyn Warkentin. Motion carried unanimously.

**Public Comment:** Gary Ellis informed us about the status of the discussion with WPS concerning Iowa optometrists' use of certain procedure codes. After 19 months of discussions, all of the ousted codes except one are now in effect for 2011. However, if any of these codes were submitted in 2010, they will not be retroactively reimbursed. Mr. Ellis also reiterated that the IOA feels the Iowa Board of Optometry has the authority to interpret Iowa law concerning Iowa Optometrists scope of practice and this should not be the function of an insurance company.

**Reports**

Chair: Dr. Michael Ohlson attended the IOA delegates meeting and reviewed some of the highlights which included the initiation of a single site test center. Dr. Ohlson encouraged all board members who are optometrists to be COPE reviewers.

Board Executive: Judy Manning reported that the current three year term of Dr. Brown and Dr. Foreman will end on April 30, 2011. Dr. Michael Portz from Red Oak and Dr. Scott Ihrke from Le Mars were appointed by the Governor to fill those vacant positions. A certificate of appreciation was presented to the outgoing board members.

Bureau Chief: Barb Huey- no report

AAG: September Lau discussed the executive order concerning rule making.

**Administrative Rules:**

Chapter 180.5(1) will eliminate the requirement to send a renewal notice by regular mail to each licensee prior to the expiration of their license. When the new computer system is in place for the Bureau of Professional Licensure an email notice will be sent to those licensees that supply an email address to the Bureau. Not sending a postcard to all licensees at renewal time will be a cost savings for the state. Dr. Tharp expressed concern for those who do not have an e-mail address and those licensees who live out of state. According to the current administrative rules it is the responsibility of the licensee to renew their license prior to the expiration date.

Chapter 180.5(7) concerning late renewal and Chapter 180.11(2) concerning reactivation fees is now specified in IAC 645 chapter 5.12 instead of chapter 184.

Chapter 180.11(3) the specification of 30 continuing education hours for diagnostically certified optometrist as well as the reactivation requirement for diagnostically certified optometrist will be removed from the rules. Beginning July 1, 2012 all licensees practicing optometry in Iowa shall have demonstrated qualifications and obtained certification to use diagnostic and therapeutic pharmaceutical agents as a condition of license renewal.

Chapter 183.2(11) Conviction of a felony was changed to conviction of a crime.

Chapter 182.4(1)g will eliminate the requirement to write “therapeutically certified optometrist” on prescription pads.

It was the consensus of the board to notice these changes.

**New Business:**

ARBO Annual Meeting is June 12-14 in Salt Lake City. There is some funding for one board member to attend.

ARBO Annual Report – ARBO requested information from our board. 1. Has your board taken a position on board certification? 2. Does your board think that continued competence of optometrists is part of your mission? If yes, what is the best way? 3. Does your board think that the current system for maintenance of licensure (CE) is adequate to reassure the public? What additional requirements would your board recommend? These questions were discussed.

Letter to (Non-DPA or TPA) and (DPA) Certified Licensees – The letter was reviewed and it was recommended that the letter be sent through certified mail.

**Closed Session:**

Carolyn Warkentin made a motion to go into closed session in accordance with Chapter 21.5(1)“d” at 11:16a.m. Motion was seconded by Dr. Tharp. Motion carried.

Roll Call Vote: Dr. Michael Ohlson, aye; Dr. Terry Brown, aye; Dr. Barbara Washburn, aye; Dr. Jeffrey Foreman, aye; Sharon Tharp aye; Charles Follett, aye, and Carolyn Warkentin, aye.

Dr Washburn made a motion to return to open session at 11:42a.m. Motion was seconded by Carolyn Warkentin. Motion carried unanimously.

05-005 A motion to issue a termination order was made by Charles Follett and seconded by Carolyn Warkentin. Motion carried

**Next Meeting:**

The next board meeting will be held on July 7, 2011.

**Future Meetings:**

July 7, 2011

October 6, 2011

**Adjournment:** A motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 11:45 a.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by,

Barbara Washburn, O.D.