

Open Session Conference Call Meeting Minutes
IOWA BOARD OF OPTOMETRY

April 3, 2014

Origination Site: Lucas State Office Building, 5th Floor Conference Room #526
Des Moines, Iowa

An electronic meeting of the Iowa Board of Optometry was held on April 3, 2014. The meeting was held in accordance with section 21.8 of the Code of Iowa entitled "Electronic Meetings". The Code states that a government body may conduct a meeting by electronic means only if circumstances are such that a meeting in person is impossible or impractical, and if the governmental body complies with the provisions of section 21.8.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 10:03a.m. by Chairperson Barb Washburn, OD.

Roll Call:

Members Present:

Richard Jacobson, OD, Thomas Hayden, OD, Barb Washburn, OD, Scott Ihrke, OD, Carolyn Warkentin, Public Member, Tamie Stahl, Public Member, Michael Portz, OD.

Staff Present:

Judy Manning, Board Executive, Barb Huey, Bureau Chief, Laura Cathelyn, AAG, Barb Christiansen, Administrative Assistant

Review Agenda:

Approval of Minutes: January 9, 2014

A motion was made by Jacobson to approve the open session meeting minutes of January 9, 2014. A second was received from Ihrke. Motion carried.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Reports:

Chair - Dr. Washburn spoke at the house of delegates meeting at the Iowa Optometry Association (IOA) convention and encouraged all licensees in attendance to sign up for the AMANDA program.

Judy: Drs. Ihrke and Portz have been reappointed to serve a second 3-year term on the board until 4/30/2017. Jackie Pullen will fill the public member position vacated by Carolyn Warkentin. Judy and the Board members thanked Carolyn for serving on the Board for 6 years.

Tentative meeting dates are included on the agenda for 2015.

Barb Huey: Reported on the new AMANDA application. A post card will be mailed to optometry licensees starting around May 1st to update the new URL address and a short explanation for use of the new on-line system. Licensees will be notified by e-mail of renewal going forward.

AAG: Laura Cathelyn instructed board members when responding to e-mails between members to not use the “reply to all”, but rather to reply to Judy Manning only. Open meeting laws could be violated if reply all is used.

New Business:

Letter from DoctorRX. More of an Association issue than a board issue. Gary Ellis was provided a copy of this letter and is looking into the issue. Jacobson feels the board should not respond to this letter. Discussion followed. Board members all agreed that the procedure in question is within the Optometry scope of practice. The board should not have to deal with new billing codes that may develop over time. AAG Cathelyn stated the board should not give opinions regarding coding. The board cannot make an official statement that a procedure code is in the professions scope of practice. This is an issue for the Association to address. AAG Cathelyn stated that no response is needed from the board on this issue. Dr. Jacobson feels that the Board should not have to make a written response, no matter how we respond, to every new code that comes out. Portz asked that a short letter be sent to the person stating that the board does not have a list of CPT codes used by Iowa licensed optometrists.

ARBO Annual Meeting: The Board discussed the ARBO meeting that will be held in Philadelphia in June to determine if anyone would like to attend. Dr. Ihrke said he will check his schedule to see if he can attend.

A letter from Deborah Severson was referred from the Speech Pathology and Audiology Board to the Optometry Board for review. Ms. Severson and several of her coworkers were questioning if it was in the scope of practice for an audiologist to vision screening for the pre-school population. The Board indicated that there are no licensure requirements to do vision screening and they may want to consult with their employer if they don't feel comfortable providing that service.

Closed Session:

Portz moved the board go into closed session at 10:50a.m. to discuss whether to initiate licensee disciplinary investigations or proceedings as allowed under Iowa Code section 21.5(1)d and to discuss records that are required to be kept confidential as allowed under Iowa Code section

21.5(1)(a). A second was received from Ihrke. Roll call vote was taken: Jacobson – aye, Portz – aye, Hayden – aye, Washburn – aye, Warkentin – aye, Ihrke – Aye, and Stahl – aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made and seconded to return to open session at 10:56a.m.

Closed Session Follow Up:

A motion was made by Jacobson to close Case #14-024. A second was received from Washburn. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Jacobson to close Case #13-010. A second was received from Ihrke. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Portz to approve the closed session meeting minutes of January 9, 2014. A second was received from Hayden. Motion Carried.

The next Meeting is July 10, 2014 in Des Moines

The meeting was adjourned at 11:02a.m.