Iowa Board of Optometry
Meeting Minutes
January 5, 2012

Call to Order:
A meeting of the Iowa Board of Optometry was called to order at 10:05 a.m. on January 5, 2012. The meeting was held via conference call in the Professional Licensure Board Room, Lucas State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa

Roll Call:
Conference Call: Chuck Follet, Scott Ihrke, O.D., Michael Portz, O.D., Sharon Tharp, O.D., Carolyn Warkentin, and Barb Washburn, O.D.

Members Absent: Michael Olson

Staff Present:
Judy Manning (Board Executive), Barb Huey (Bureau Chief), Karla Hoover (Office Secretary), and Megan Gavin (AAG)

Public Present: Gary Ellis (IOA),

Approval of Minutes: The October 6, 2011 minutes were reviewed and the following corrections were noted: Gary Ellis attended our meeting as a representative of the IOA not the AOA and the board returned to open session at 10:40 not 12:02 after closed session. A motion to approve the October 6, 2011 minutes as corrected was made by Dr. Michael Portz and seconded by Carolyn Warkentin. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment:
Gary Ellis, Iowa Optometric Association – The legislative initiative concerning the clarification of language in the optometry practice act is in draft form and will be presented during the next legislative session.

The discussion with WPS concerning the denial of payment for use of a VEP by optometrists in the J5 region continues. It was brought to our attention that WPS serves states in the J5 region (Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska) as well as states in the Legacy region (Illinois Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin). Optometrists in the Legacy region are currently being paid for using a VEP. WPS is being encouraged to provide the same policy for both regions. It is hoped that this will be implemented in the near future.

Mr. Ellis wanted to know if Iowa offers temporary licenses. There is an IOA member who will be taking a temporary leave from his practice and an optometrist from another state has offered to fill in. Judy Manning informed Mr. Ellis that Iowa does not offer temporary licenses but gave information on how this out of state optometrist can obtain a license.

Reports
Chair: No report

Board Executive: Judy Manning informed us that Dr. Michael Olson finishes his last term in April 2012 while Dr. Barb Washburn will be finishing her second term. Judy mentioned the ARBO meeting which is in Chicago in June. We will discuss at our April meeting who will be attending. Judy received a questionnaire from the employees of OE tracker who wanted to know if we use OE tracker or if we require our licensees to use this service. Judy reiterated that we do not use or require our licensees to use OE tracker. This is a paid service. Mr. Ellis informed us that the IOA offers the OE tracker as a service for all its members.

Dr. Sharon Tharp mentioned that OE tracker offers services beyond just keeping track of continuing education hours; i.e., text notifications of when relicensing is due in another state.

Bureau Chief: Barb Huey had no formal report today but did inform us that the new computer system will be available in the Fall of 2012 and it will be offering many services related to licensure at no cost.

AAG: No report

New Business:
TPA Certification for Steven Jacobsen, OD – Dr. Jacobsen is currently TPA certified in Nebraska and his request to upgrade to TPA in Iowa was reviewed. Dr. Michael Portz moved that we issue an Iowa TPA license to Dr. Steven Jacobsen. Dr. Scott Ihrke seconded. Motion carried.

Use of VEP Diagnostic Equipment- This topic was discussed under public comment. The board will not be making a declaratory statement.

Closed Session:
Barb Washburn made a motion to go into closed session in accordance with Chapter 21.5(1)"d" at10:24 a.m. Motion was seconded by Carolyn Warkentin. Motion carried.

Roll Call Vote: Chuck Follet, aye; Dr. Scott Ihrke, aye; Dr. Michael Portz, aye; Dr. Sharon Tharp, aye; Carolyn Warkentin, aye; and Dr. Barb Washburn, aye.

Scott Ihrke made a motion to return to open session at 10:37 a.m. Motion was seconded by Carolyn Warkentin. Motion carried unanimously.

Concerning case 10-004:
Carolyn Warkentin made a motion to File Charges. Chuck Follet seconded. Motion carried.

Next Meeting:
The next board meeting will be held on April 5, 2012.

Future Meetings:
July 12, 2012 October 4, 2012

Adjournment: A motion was made by Michael Portz and seconded by Chuck Follet to adjourn at 10:39pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Washburn, O.D.