

**Iowa Board of Optometry  
Conference Call Meeting Minutes  
April 5, 2012**

**Originating Site: Lucas State Office Bldg., Conference Room 526  
Des Moines Iowa 50319**

An electronic meeting of the Iowa Board of Optometry was held on April 5, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. in the Professional Licensure Board Room, Lucas State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa. 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 by Michael Ohlson, Chairperson, at 10: 06am

**Roll Call:**

Members Present: Michael Portz, OD; Charles Follett, Public Member; Sharon Tharp, OD; Carolyn Warkentin, Public Member; Scott Ihrke, OD; Michael Ohlson, OD

Members Absent: Barbara Washburn, OD

Staff Present: Judy Manning, Board Executive; Karla Hoover, Licensure Specialist; Barb Huey, Bureau Chief; Julie Bussanmas, AAG; Barb Christiansen, Administrative Assistant

Guest Present: Gary Ellis, Iowa Optometric Association

**Review Agenda:**

**Approval of Minutes:**

A motion was made by Portz to approve the meeting minutes from January 5, 2012. A second was received from Ihrke. All ayes, none opposed, motion carried.

**Public Comment:**

Gary Ellis - Reported on Dr. Noyes who died suddenly of a massive heart attack. Gary stated that Dr. Noyes will be greatly missed in the optometric community. Dr. Noyes was very involved and a champion of the Optometric profession.

Mr. Ellis also discussed the passage of SF 2920 and the clarity the law change will bring to the Optometry profession. This law is very clear and gives great guidance for scope of practice.

The association is receiving questions about the required child abuse training. It is getting close to the end of the biennium and individuals seem to be having difficulty finding a continuing education course that covers this requirement. NIACC who has in the past offered this course is no longer offering CEUs for this course. Dr. Ohlson commented that there are still electronic courses available for this training. Information about approved sponsors of mandatory reporting training is available on the IDPH website.

Mr. Ellis on behalf of the association thanked Dr. Ohlson for his service on the board.

**Reports:**

Dr. Michael Ohlson, Chair – Dr. Ohlson discussed his time on the board and shared his final report. Dr. Ohlson offered a “charge” to the board members with regards to their continued service to the profession. Dr. Ohlson’s report was provided to the Board.

Judy Manning, Board Executive – Judy thanked Dr. Ohlson for his input, guidance and service on the board. Judy presented him with a Certificate of Appreciation for his years of service. Dr. Barbara Washburn has been reappointed to the board for another 3-year term and Dr. Richard Jacobson from Fort Dodge has been appointed to replace Dr. Ohlson.

There are currently five optometrists that hold an active Iowa license who will not be able to renew their license and practice in Iowa unless they show proof of having completed the additional coursework required to be therapeutically certified. Their licensure files have been flagged so that these 5 individuals cannot renew in June. All licensees that do not hold a therapeutic license were provided information on courses that were available to obtain the therapeutic certification. These individuals have received sufficient notification of this requirement. This law change was effective July 1, 2010 and all licensees without a therapeutically certified license were notified by certified mail of the change and how it would affect their ability to practice in Iowa.

Barb Huey, Bureau Chief – Thanked Dr. Ohlson for his service.

Julie Bussanmas, AAG – No report

**Administrative Rules:**

None – Will discuss possible changes at next scheduled board meeting.

**New Business:**

ARBO Annual Meeting: Chicago, IL, June 24-26, 2012. Judy reported that Barb Washburn has expressed an interest in attending this year’s conference. Judy will start the process for Dr. Washburn’s travel to Chicago. Sharon indicated that she will attend if for some reason Barb cannot. Dr. Washburn will be registered as the voting delegate.

**Complaints:**

No complaints were discussed.

**Next Meeting:**

The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be held July 12, 2012 in Des Moines.

A motion was made by Follett to adjourn the meeting at 10:50am. A second was received from Portz. All ayes, opposed none, motion carried.