

Open Session Meeting Minutes  
IOWA BOARD OF OPTOMETRY  
July 11, 2013  
Lucas State Office Building, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room #526  
Des Moines, Iowa

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 10:07a.m. by Barb Washburn, Chair.

**Roll Call:**

Members Present:

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

Staff Present:

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

Guests Present:

Jill Gonder, IOA

**Election of Officers:**

A motion was made by Ihrke to nominate and elect Barb Washburn as Chair. A second was received from Jacobson. All ayes, opposed none, motion carried.

A motion was made by Jacobson to nominate and elect Scott Ihrke as Vice Chair. A second was received from Portz. All ayes, opposed none, motion carried.

Discipline Committee Assignment: Dr. Richard Jacobson was appointed to serve on the Discipline Committee with Dr. Barb Washburn and Carolyn Warkentin.

**Review Agenda:**

The hearing scheduled at 10:00 a.m. today was continued.

Julie Bussanmas introduced the new AAG, Laura Cathelyn, who will now be representing the Optometry Board.

**Approval of Minutes:**

A motion was made by Warkentin to approve the meeting minutes of April 4, 2013 as amended. A second was received from Jacobson. All ayes, opposed none, motion carried.

Dr. Portz had questions regarding the use of medicated punctual plugs. Judy reviewed the optometry law with the board and most members felt the use of punctual plugs should be allowed by the optometry scope of practice. AAG will look into this issue and see if the scope of practice already covers this. This item will be placed on the next agenda.

**Public Comment:**

Jill Gonder, Iowa Optometric Association (IOA), explained that IOA is working with DOT to address language in House File 355 regarding the screening prior to renewing a driver's license on-line. Will need to pass a vision test or file a vision report.

**Reports:**

Chair – No report.

Board Executive Judy Manning welcomed the new board members, Dr. Thomas Hayden and Tamie Stahl, who were appointed by the Governor to serve a three-year term until April 30, 2016. Judy provided information on the American Optometric Association accreditation of three new optometry degree programs that are in located in Arizona, Texas and California.

Bureau Chief Barb Huey welcomed the new board members. By the next board meeting the new licensure application will be ready to begin members accessing the new application. Some training should be available at the next board meeting.

AAG Laura Cathelyn provided a refresher of board responsibilities and guidelines.

**New Business:** ARBO Annual Meeting Report from Dr. Portz.

Dr. Portz provided highlights from the recent ARBO Annual Meeting. There is some controversy regarding who accredits continuing education. ARBO has the COPE program that certifies courses that optometrists take to renew their license and now the AOA also wants to accredit continuing education. OE tracker badges were developed by ARBO for continuing education and approximately 40 states use the OE Tracker program but at this time Iowa does not use this system. OE Tracker is available to members for \$25 and if the licensee is a member of IOA that fee is waived. Dr. Portz also reported that some states are auditing 100% of licensees to guarantee competent optometrists. Dr. Portz felt this issue needs to be researched and reviewed by the board in the future. Dr. Portz presented a state report to the annual meeting attendees. Dr. Portz thanked the board for the opportunity to attend and encouraged other members to attend when possible.

**Administrative Rules:**

Adopt changes to Licensure Chapter 180 Con Ed. Chapter 181 and Practice Chapter 182 (ARC 0680C). Judy reviewed the rule changes with the board members. Public Hearing was held on April 23, 2013 and no comments were received. If the Board votes to adopt the changes today the rules would go into effect on September 11, 2013. Changes were made based on recent updates to the Code. The definition of Optometrist was updated and language addressing diagnostically certified optometrists was rescinded. Continuing education language was changed to require a combined total of 40 hours from COPE Category B and Category C with a minimum of 14 in each category. A motion was made by Ihrke to adopt ARC0680C. A second was received from Portz. All ayes, opposed none, motion carried.

**Complaints:**

A motion was made by Hayden to enter into closed session at 10:55a.m. to discuss confidential material related to applications and complaints according to Iowa Code Chapter 21.5(1) a and d. A second was received from Portz. Roll call taken: Hayden – Aye; Portz – Aye; Ihrke – Aye; Washburn – Aye; Warkentin – Aye; Stahl – Aye; Jacobson – Aye. Motion carried.  
Motion carried

A motion was made and seconded to return to open session at 11:35a.m. Motion passed.

**Follow up from closed session:**

A motion was made by Jacobsen to approve a Settlement Agreement as discussed in closed session for Case #10-004. A second was received from Ihrke. 6 ayes, 1 abstained, motion carried.

A motion was made to close Case #13-004. A second was received from Ihrke. All ayes, opposed none, motion carried.

Judy reviewed a new letter that will be sent to the licensee when a complaint is received regarding their license. This issue will be put on the next meeting agenda for further discussion. Many concerns were voiced about having to then confirm on insurance forms that a professional has had a complaint filed against them. Concern was also expressed that insurance costs would increase due to having to indicate that a complaint had been filed against them even if the complaint is not founded.

A motion was made by Jacobson to adjourn the meeting at 12:10p.m. A second was received from Ihrke. All ayes, opposed none, motion carried.