



Board of Optometry

Office of Professional Regulation, Vermont Secretary of State

89 Main Street, 3rd Floor • Montpelier, VT 05620-3402

<https://sos.vermont.gov/opr/>

Approved Meeting Minutes

Remote Meeting

Wednesday, April 7th at 8:30 a.m.

Board Members Present: Albert Pristaw, OD, Chair (via web); Francis Pinard, OD, Vice Chair (via web); Jean Peterson, Public Member (via web); and Kenneth Lawenda, OD, Secretary (via web)

OPR Staff Present: Lauren Layman, Staff Attorney (via web); Corey Young, Licensing Administrator I (via web); and Michelle Lavoie, Licensing Administrator I (via web).

- 1. Call to Order.** Dr. Pristaw called the meeting to order at 8:32 am.
- 2. Approval of January 6th, 2021 meeting minutes:** Dr. Pinard motioned to approve the minutes as written. Dr. Lawenda seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- 3. Discussion:**
 - Telemedicine
 - Dr. Pristaw spoke to the Board about an entity offering tele-optometry services and his concerns with the same.
 - Ms. Layman informed the board about OPR's upcoming telemedicine task force.
 - If the General Assembly passes the bill establishing a tele-medicine task force, the Board wishes to appoint Dr. Lawenda as its delegate to the task force. Dr. Pinard moved that Dr. Lawenda should be appointed as the Board's delegate to the telemedicine task force. Dr. Pristaw seconded the motion. Motion passed.
 - ARBO Board of Directors
 - Dr. Pristaw moved that OPR draft a letter to express the Board's support for Dr. Lawenda's nomination to the ARBO Board of Directors. Dr. Pinard seconded the motion. Motion passed.
 - Legislative and Policy Updates
 - Ms. Layman informed the Board that OPR has implemented the uniform, 3-year endorsement pathway to licensure, in accordance with a law passed in 2020.
 - Ms. Layman informed the Board that OPR has drafted rules creating a process for individuals who obtained professional credentials in a foreign country to determine equivalence of those credentials to Vermont requirements in Vermont.
- 4. Dr. Pristaw adjourned the meeting at 9:23 am.**

2021 Meeting Date –September 3rd, 2021

Please check the office [website](#) for updates