



Board of Optometry

Office of Professional Regulation, Vermont Secretary of State

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Approved Meeting Minutes

Virtual Meeting

December 17th, 2021

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).

1. **Call to Order.** Dr. Pristaw called the meeting to order at 8:32 am.
2. **Approval of September 3rd, 2021 meeting minutes:** Dr. Pinard motioned to approve the minutes as written. Dr. Pristaw seconded the motion. Approved.
3. **Discussion:**
 - Rule Interpretation: Dr. Lawenda moved to approve a policy interpreting the application of Rule 2.3(c). Dr. Pinard seconded the motion. Approved. The policy states as follows:

The Board of Optometry interprets Rule 2.3(c), regarding examination requirements for licensure, to require applicants for licensure to only successfully complete the mandatory portions of the NBEO examination (currently Parts I, II and III and TMOD of the NBEO examination) and not the voluntary portions of the examination.
 - CPR Recertification: Dr. Pinard asked whether there were any accommodations being made for licensees needing to renew CPR certifications. Attorney Layman informed the Board that Office policy currently permits licensees to renew their CPR certifications through online courses.
 - “Presbyopia Physician” – The Board discussed a new pharmaceutical treatment for presbyopia.
 - ARBO update –
 - Dr. Lawenda moved to approve a policy interpreting the application of Rule 3.4 regarding limitations on online continuing education. Dr.

Pinard seconded the motion. Approved. The policy states as follows:

The Board interprets the 10-hour limitation on online continuing education, as established in Rule 3.4, to apply only to asynchronous, enduring, online continuing education courses and in home study. Licensees may complete all 40 hours of continuing education via synchronous, interactive, distance learning course work.

- Dr. Lawenda provided additional updates to the Board about ARBO efforts.
- Officer Election: Dr. Lawenda moved to keep the current officer slate for the 2022 Board year. Dr. Pinard seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously. The Board officers for 2022 are as follows:

Chair: Dr. Pristaw
Vice Chair: Dr. Pinard
Secretary: Dr. Lawenda

- 2022 Meeting Dates: The Board chose the following meeting dates for 2022:
 - March 11th
 - June 24th
 - September 23rd
 - December 16th
- Other Business
 - Attorney Layman updated the Board on the recommendations and final report of the Interstate Telehealth Working Group.
- Public Comment: No public comment.
- Dr. Lawenda moved to adjourn the at 10:06 am.

2021 Meeting Date –December 17th, 2021
Please check the office [website](#) for updates