



Board of Optometry

Office of Professional Regulation, Vermont Secretary of State

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Approved Minutes

Friday, March 30, 2018 at 8:30 a.m.

- 1. Call to Order.** Dr. Pristaw called the meeting to order at 8:31 am.

Board Members Present: Albert Pristaw, OD, Chair; Francis Pinard, OD, Vice Chair (by phone); Jean Peterson, Public Member; Bonnie Liberty, Public Member, Secretary, and Kenneth Lawenda, OD.

OPR Staff present: Lauren Hibbert, General Counsel; Tara Grenier, Licensing Administrator, and Aprille Morrison, Licensing Administrator I

- 2. Changes to the agenda.** None

- 3. Approval of minutes from October 6, 2017 meeting.** Dr. Pristaw made a motion to approve the October 6, 2017 minutes as written. Dr. Lawenda seconded the motion. Motion passed.

- 4. Disciplinary Matters:** None

- 5. Education Course Review.** The Board reviewed a Pharmacy Board approved course regarding controlled substances. Dr. Lawenda made a motion to approve the below continuing education course. Ms. Liberty seconded the motion. Motion passed.

- Pharmacist's Letter/Therapeutic Research Center requesting approval of two (2) credit of continuing education for the online course "**Controlled Substances: Preventing Diversion and Promoting Patient Safety with Opioids**". The website for this course is www.pharmacistletter.com

- 6. Discussion Topics**

- ARBO Delegate for June 2018 meeting.** Dr. Pristaw made a motion that Dr. Lawenda be the Optometry Board Delegate for the National ARBO meeting in 2018. Ms. Peterson seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- Controlled Substance Continuing Education Requirement.** The office clarified with the Board that if the practitioner does not hold a DEA registration then the controlled substance specific continuing education is not required. The Board also approved the above online course to assist

practitioners with completing this requirement prior to the July 2018 renewal.

7. Public Comment

- a. Dean Barcelow, OD, Vermont Optometric Association President and Heather Shouldice attended the Board meeting requesting the Board consider an Optometrist scope of practice expansion for the OPR bill for the 2019 Legislative season. Dr. Lawenda made a motion to request OPR consider expansion of Optometry scope of practice based on education at a recognized school of Optometry, as taught, to benefit practice and access to patient services. Dr. Pristaw seconded the motion. Motion passed.

8. Other Business

- a. Dr. Lawenda spoke about the issue of practitioners accepting samples from pharmaceutical companies and the Vermont Attorney General's regulation on this being unacceptable practice. Any request for changes to this regulation would need to come from the Vermont Optometric Association.

- 9. Adjournment.** Dr. Pristaw made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:36 am. Ms. Peterson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Next Scheduled Meeting – Friday, June 1, 2018
Please check the office [website](#) for updates